



Daily Report

East Asia

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Japan

Soviet Patrol Seizes Fishing Boat 9 February *OW120945 Tokyo KYODO in English 0845 GMT* 12 Feb 88

[Text] Sendai, Feb. 12 KYODO—A Japanese fishing boat was seized on suspicion of ignoring an order to stop by a Soviet patrol boat Tuesday in the Soviet 200-mile zone, the Maritime Safety Station in Shioyama said Friday.

The 349-ton trawler "No 15 Koei Maru" with a crew of 24, could not be contacted by either its owner in Shioyama, Miyagi Prefecture, or the Maritime Safety Station after being taken to the Paramushir Island in the Kurils, officials said.

The ship was on its way back after fishing in the Bering Sea when it was seized.

U.S. Official Criticizes Beef Quotas *OW120751 Tokyo KYODO in English 0733 GMT* 12 Feb 88

[Text] Hong Kong, Feb. 12 KYODO—The United States will escalate demands that Japan remove all import quotas on billions of dollars worth of American citrus fruits and beef, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Richard E. Lyng said in Hong Kong Friday.

He hopes to have the quotas abolished when they expire on March 31.

The U.S. will also push Japan hard to scrap nonquota barriers against agricultural imports from the U.S., Lyng told reporters.

The U.S. has alleged that Japan unfairly uses quotas and nonquota barriers, involving import licensing requirements and tariffs, to keep U.S. products out of the Japanese market.

The barriers were allegedly set up to protect Japan's domestic agricultural industry.

When asked about the possibility that Japan would comply with U.S. demands to eliminate citrus and beef quotas, Lyng said, "we fervently hope that they will do so."

At stake for the United States is a lucrative market.

Of the 5 billion dollars in U.S. agricultural product sales to Japan last year, beef accounted for 700 million dollars, Lyng said.

"If we could remove that quota we think we could see that amount double in perhaps 3 years," he said.

Japan was the biggest single customer of agricultural products customer of the U.S. in 1987, and Lyng said he expects that to continue this year, particularly if the quotas are dropped.

Lyng said the U.S. volume of business with Japan is good, but he was still disturbed that in some markets the free movement of U.S. products was either totally or partially obstructed.

"We allow free access to our markets, unrestricted access really, for Japanese goods of all kinds," he added, specifically naming cameras and consumer electronics.

U.S. agricultural exports amounted to 28 billion dollars in 1987, and Lyng said that should grow about 8 percent this year.

Lyng was in Hong Kong en route back to Washington after a 12-day official trip to Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

He said his talks with Southeast Asian leaders focused on supplying the region with U.S. agricultural technology and products.

Sato Rejects U.S. Call for Compensation *OW120525 Tokyo KYODO in English 0521 GMT* 12 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 12 KYODO—Japan has rejected a U.S. request to be paid compensation for continued Japanese import curbs on two of 10 agricultural items—evaporated milk and cream and starches—Takashi Sato, minister of agriculture, forestry and fisheries, said Friday.

Sato told reporters following a regular cabinet meeting that Japan rejected the request at bilateral agricultural talks that resumed at the U.S. Trade Representative's office in Washington Thursday.

He reiterated his government's stance that Japan will not pay compensation to the United States in respect of the two items.

However, no details related to any possible compensation were discussed at the meeting, Sato said.

Referring to U.S. retaliatory sanctions against Japan for its controversial research whaling, he confirmed Japan's policy to continue such whaling.

Sato said he hoped the issue would not become a major bilateral problem.

The Reagan administration's plan to take sanctions over whaling was reported by Japanese diplomatic sources in Washington Wednesday.

Miyazawa Predicts U.S. Defecits Will Shrink
OW120457 Tokyo KYODO in English 0158 GMT
12 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 12 KYODO—Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Friday he believes the U.S. twin deficits on the trade and budget fronts will decline slowly over a period of time.

Miyazawa made the statement prior to the release by the U.S. Commerce Department Friday of U.S. merchandise trade figures for December.

Miyazawa told a press conference following a cabinet meeting he remains cautious about further stimulation of the Japanese economy, which is expanding after hitting bottom in late 1986.

"Economic conditions have changed compared with the start of 1987, when the economy began to recover from a recession under the yen's sharp advance against the dollar," he said.

The finance minister indicated there is no need to accelerate execution of public works projects at the risk of fanning potential inflationary pressure because economic activity is strong unlike last year.

The government has presented to the Diet a budget for fiscal 1988, starting April 1, requesting only a 1.7 Percent rise in government expenditure on public works and others, compared with an estimated real 3.5 percent increase in the current year resulting largely from a 6 trillion yen pump-priming economic package.

Satoshi Sumita, Bank of Japan governor, said Wednesday the economy continues to expand, led by personal consumption and housing construction, and voiced caution against risking a rise in inflationary pressure by stepping up budget spending.

Kawara Discusses Defense With Congressmen
OW120451 Tokyo KYODO in English 0429 GMT
12 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 12 KYODO—Defense Agency Director General Tsutomu Kawara told two U.S. Congress members Friday that Japan will make international contributions in nonmilitary fields, Defense Agency officials said.

Kawara was quoted as saying it is necessary for Japan to consider the feelings of Japan's neighbors in building up defense capability.

Kawara also said he hopes the United States will see that Japan has made contributions to Japan's neighboring regions in fields of official development assistance and technical assistance rather than in defense, the officials said.

Patricia Schroeder, a Colorado Democrat who chairs the panel on defense burden sharing of the House Armed Services Committee, and Norman Sisisky, a Virginia Democrat and also a member of the panel, had talks with Kawara and Seiki Nishihiro, chief of the agency's Defense Policy Bureau, the officials said.

Schroeder was quoted as saying the U.S. and its allies, including Japan, should share views on what they can do for defense.

She said it has been difficult for the United States to increase assistance as the U.S. has a huge trade deficit and gave high marks to Japan for its assistance to the Philippines, the officials said.

Sisisky was quoted as saying there has been much pressure in the United States to reduce defense spending and that the role in defense of equal partners like Japan has been questioned.

Kawara told the congress members Japan has been increasing its share of costs for maintaining U.S. forces stationed in Japan and that Japan must consider what it can do within the framework of the constitution and as a member of the Western bloc, they said.

Kawara also said it is important to resolve problems through dialogues.

Nishihiro said Japan should make international contributions as an economic power and should do more in nonmilitary fields.

The Japan-U.S. Status-of-Forces Agreement stipulates that the United States shares costs of maintenance, including payments for U.S. military personnel and civilian employees at U.S. forces stationed in Japan, basic pay for Japanese workers on U.S. bases in Japan and utilities of the bases, while Japan shares costs of facilities, including rent.

Since fiscal 1978, Japan has shared costs for welfare, retirement payments and certain allowances for Japanese workers on U.S. bases in Japan to help ease the financial burden of the U.S. forces in Japan. Japan's share has been rising every year since then.

Japan and the U.S. signed a five-year agreement in January 1986, in which Japan agreed to pay up to half of the cost of the allowances for the 21,000 Japanese employees on U.S. bases in Japan.

The cabinet of then Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone decided last October that Japan would consult with the U.S. on ways to share the cost of maintaining U.S. forces in Japan as part of Japan's efforts to help secure safe navigation in the Persian Gulf.

The government decided in January to seek Diet approval for a revision of the five-year Japan-U.S. accord so as to enable Japan to pay all allowances of the Japanese workers on U.S. bases. Japan will pay all allowances such as commuting fees, housing and retirement payments of the Japanese workers by fiscal 1990, if the Diet agrees.

The government allocated 120.3 billion yen for the fiscal 1988 budget to help ease the financial burden on the U.S. forces in Japan, up from 109.6 billion yen in the current fiscal budget.

Uno Receives Visiting Iraqi Official
*OW120353 Tokyo KYODO in English 0301 GMT
12 Feb 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 12 KYODO—Japan called Friday on Iraq to take a more pragmatic approach in resolving its eight-year-old war with Iran through United Nations mediation.

Foreign Ministry officials said Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno passed the message in a meeting with visiting Iraqi Vice Foreign Minister Wisam Shawkat al-Zahawi.

Uno told the Iraqi diplomat that Iraq also needs to act flexibly in enabling the United Nations to persuade Iran to implement the U.N. Security Council resolution last July calling for immediate ceasefire in the Gulf War.

Al-Zahawi was in Tokyo since Thursday to canvass Japanese support for the Iraqi position in renewed U.N. Security Council efforts aimed at forcing the two warring nations to end the conflict.

Japan is a nonpermanent member of the council.

Al-Zahawi charged that Iran is impeding implementation of a ceasefire by presenting new demands not contained in U.N. Resolution 598.

Iraq, which accepted the resolution immediately after it was passed, has insisted Iran follows all its provisions.
[sentence as received]

Japanese Foreign Ministry officials which briefed reporters on the meeting said Al-Zahawi did not respond to Uno's demand that Iraq take a pragmatic approach in mediatory efforts now undertaken by U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Minister Urges Business Not To Hire Illegals
*OW120453 Tokyo KYODO in English 0253 GMT
12 Feb 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 12 KYODO—Labor Minister Taro Nakamura said Friday he has urged major business organizations not to hire foreigners who have illegally entered or overstayed in Japan.

Nakamura told reporters he has sent letters to the powerful Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) and the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Nissho) and 38 other business groups.

The labor minister said he has issued the warning because of an increasing number of foreign workers coming chiefly from Asian countries.

Nakamura said Japan's labor policy bans foreigners from being employed for manual laboring jobs and allows the employment only of those with special skills.

Illegal foreign workers might cause a worsening of unemployment among Japanese and adversely affect their working conditions, he said.

The number of foreigners detained by immigration officials during the first half of 1987 totaled 7,211, up 66.4 percent from a year earlier, according to ministry figures.

LDP Official Renews Call for Indirect Tax
*OW120955 Tokyo KYODO in English 0830 GMT
12 Feb 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 12 KYODO—Michio Watanabe, chairman of the Liberal Democratic Party policy board, renewed Friday his call for imposing a new indirect tax and reducing government dependence on direct tax revenues.

Watanabe, a former finance minister, who spoke at a luncheon meeting at the Japan National Press Club, said a large scale tax reform is imperative.

The country's rapidly aging society threatens to cause a big tax burden on the working population in the future, he said.

Watanabe, chairman of the LDP Policy Affairs Research Council, repeatedly called earlier this month for reexamining a 1979 parliamentary resolution against imposition of a general excise tax.

A new indirect tax is the only way to prepare for the aging society and even to finance a reduction in income and corporate taxes, he said.

The governing party will start full-fledged discussions on the tax reform in mid-March or April, he said.

Japan's tax revenues for fiscal 1988 are estimated at 46.4 trillion yen, of which direct tax revenues account for 33.5 trillion yen or 72.2 Percent, according to Finance Ministry figures.

Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, who has asked government and party panels to draw up tax reform plans, told the Diet last month that he will make maximum efforts to achieve a sweeping tax reform.

LDP Resumes Efforts To Break Diet Deadlock
*OW120429 Tokyo KYODO in English 0414 GMT
12 Feb 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 12 KYODO—Senior officials of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party resumed efforts Friday to break a parliamentary stalemate but produced no immediate compromise plan, LDP sources said.

LDP Secretary General Shintaro Abe talked for 40 minutes with lower house Budget Committee Chairman Koichi Hamada around noon about his political future, the sources said.

Opposition parties have refused to resume Diet business, waiting for the LDP to take action against Hamada, who blocked a Japan Communist Party member from asking questions during a committee meeting last Saturday. He also called JCP leader Kenji Miyamoto a "murder" [as received] in the same session.

Business in the Diet has been halted since Monday.

Hamada has refused to resign as committee chairman, the sources said.

Kozo Watanabe, chairman of the LDP Diet Affairs Committee, and Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, chairman of the lower house Steering Committee, also attended the Abe-Hamada session.

Nuclear Plant Test Begins Despite Protest
*OW120413 Tokyo KYODO in English 0316 GMT
12 Feb 88*

[Text] Ikata, Ehime Pref., Feb. 12 KYODO—Engineers began a test to cut the output of a nuclear power plant here Friday morning as a crowd of some 700 people who had gathered outside protested that the operation was potentially dangerous.

The test at the Ikata plant of Shikoku Electric Power Co., on the smallest of Japan's four main islands, is aimed at showing whether power generated by a 566,000 kilowatt light-water reactor could be freely controlled during a period of excessive power supply.

The 12-hour test, called a load-following, began at 9 a.m. and the power output was expected to fall to half by noon. Power will be increased from 6 p.m. and should return to normal by 9 p.m.

In Tokyo, Science and Technology Agency Director General Soichiro Ito said there was no cause for concern about the safety of the test, playing down worries expressed by residents near the atomic power plant.

Ito, a state minister, told reporters that Japan will proceed with its plan to supply 40 percent of its power needs with atomic power generation by 2000.

A similar test was conducted at the plant last October, and antinuclear groups who organized demonstrations Thursday and Friday said the danger of an accident would increase if it became a daily operation at plants nationwide.

They said trying to adjust the power output of nuclear reactors to meet demand would raise the risk of operating mistakes and equipment failure.

Thursday's rally was attended by some 3,000 people, according to the organizers.

North Korea

UN Envoy Holds News Conference on Bombing
*SK120248 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
2100 GMT 10 Feb 88*

[Text] On 9 February Pak Kil-yon, ambassador of the DPRK permanent observer mission to the United Nations, held a news conference on the South Korean passenger airliner incident.

At the news conference, he exposed that the crash of the South Korean airliner last November was perpetrated by the South Korean Government for a victory for the ruling party's candidate in the presidential election. He noted: According to a document released by the South Korean National Democratic Front Central Committee in Seoul, the No Tae-u ring fabricated this terrorism. He laid bare that the passenger airliner incident was aimed at winning a victory in the so-called election by giving a psychological shock to the people.

Saying that bombs were planted by (H-107), a South Korean agent, when the passenger airliner stopped in Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates, he exposed that one of the suspects, who planted bombs in the airliner as alleged by the puppet clique, did not commit suicide, but was killed with poison by South Korean agents.

He also exposed that the wreck of the airliner, which was discovered in Burma's Andaman Sea last December, was forged to shift responsibility for the crash of the plane onto the DPRK.

Saying that traitor No Tae-u is a murder maniac who has killed countless innocent people for his sordid political purpose, he stressed that our people will never pardon this murderer and that No Tae-u will be subject to history's stern punishment.

Madagascar Will Not Participate in Olympics
*SK120435 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0429 GMT 12 Feb 88*

Pyongyang February 12 (KCNA)—Malagasy President Didier Ratsiraka stressed that Madagascar would never participate in "Seoul Olympics" unless it is co-hosted by the North and the South of Korea, saying it adopted its principled decision from its complete independent stand and declared to the world.

When he met DPRK ambassador to his country Chong Tae-hwa on February 5, he denounced the South Korean puppets' anti-DPRK smear campaign over the KAL incident and expressed full support for the DPRK's stand.

Pak Song-chol Attends Iran Anniversary Dinner
SK120455 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0439 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 12 (KCNA)—Iranian Ambassador to Korea Reza Sayyed-Mohammadi gave a banquet Thursday evening on the occasion of the 9th anniversary of the victory of the Iranian Islamic Revolution.

Invited to the banquet were Vice-President Pak Song-chol, personages concerned and foreign diplomatic envoys here.

The banquet was addressed by Ambassador Reza Sayyed-Mohammadi.

The Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI] highly estimates the Korean people's struggle for the development of the national economy under the leadership of his excellency Marshal Kim Il-song, he said.

The IRI also supports the Korean people in their struggle to realize the cherished desire for national reunification, and denounces the U.S. policies of interference and aggression on the Korean peninsula, the policy hostile to the DPRK, he said.

The IRI welcomes the peace initiatives of His Excellency Marshal Kim Il-song including the one for reduction of armed forces in the North and the South of Korea, he said, and declared:

We believe that the U.S. troop pullout from South Korea alone is a fundamental solution to the present crisis in this region.

The next speaker was Minister of Foreign Trade Choe Chong-kun.

He laid the victory of the Islamic Revolution won under the leadership of his excellency Ayatollah Imam Khomeini, the respected leader, 9 years ago, opened a broad avenue for the Iranian people to build a new society.

After the revolution the Iranian people have made big strides in their struggle to repulse the U.S. imperialist moves toward aggression and intervention, consolidate the victory of the revolution, attain the independent development of the country and build a new prosperous Iran, he pointed out, and stressed:

Our people sincerely rejoice over the achievements of the Iranian people in their struggle for the independent development of the country and support Iran's anti-imperialist, independent and non-aligned policy in the field of external relations.

KCNA Denounces Nakasone-Chon Meeting
SK120445 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0436 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 12 (KCNA)—Former Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone, during his South Korean tour, was closeted with the traitor Chon Tu-hwan at "Chongwadae" on February 10, according to a report from Seoul.

The traitor Chon Tu-hwan was very happy to see his master, flattering him with a talk about his "great role." By this he meant that he would not forget the master's grateful support and backing as a "protector" during his term at "Chongwadae" and that he would render unsparing services to the Japanese reactionaries in the future, too.

Nakasone, for his part, tried hard to give a shot in the arm to the traitor Chon who would retire from "Chongwadae," egging him up to continued treacheries.

Facts show that by the confab between Nakasone and the traitor Chon it is meant, after all, to join hands in continuing Japanese militarist domination over South Korea, keeping the country divided and laying obstacles in the way of national reunification while constantly maintaining the master-servant relations as ever.

WPK Sends Message of Greetings to JSP
SK110439 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0422 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 11 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea sent a message of greetings on February 11 to the 53rd regular national meeting of the Japan Socialist Party.

The message says:

Adhering to the three principles of denuclearization, the Japan Socialist Party is firmly taking disarmament, non-alignment and positive neutrality as its basic line and, to this end, is carrying on positive activities against the imperialist policies of aggression and war and the militarization of the country and in defence of the anti-nuclear, anti-war and peace movement and of the vital rights and interests of the Japanese people.

And your party is vigorously striving for a switchover in the Korea policy of the Japanese government and for the promotion of the amity and friendship between the Korean and Japanese peoples.

We express full support and firm solidarity for such effort, considering it to be a righteous struggle entirely coincident with the trend of the times today and with the desire and interests of the Japanese people and conducive to peace and security in Asia and the rest of the world.

The Japan Socialist Party is expressing full support for our reasonable proposals including one for tripartite talks to remove the tensions on the Korean peninsula and reunify the country independently and peacefully, and is carrying on brisk solidarity activities for their materialization at home and abroad. This is a great encouragement to our people.

The message expresses the belief that the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the two parties will continue to consolidate and develop.

South Urged To Respond to Meeting Proposal
SK120501 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0445 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 12 (KCNA)—The secretary of the preparatory committee of the North side to a North-South joint conference, in a press statement issued on February 11, urged the South Korean side to ponder over the DPRK's important initiative for a North-South joint conference and show a positive response to it at an earliest possible date.

Recalling that the North side proposed a preparatory meeting at Panmunjom on February 19 for the convocation of a North-South joint conference, he said the constructive proposal for negotiations is a very timely and reasonable save-the-nation one reflecting a noble desire to turn the situation on the Korean peninsula this year, which lies at a crossroad of war and peace, on all accounts, in favor of detente and peace and to achieve national reconciliation and unity between the North and the South.

However, the South Korean side has been so insincere as to give no reply until now, nearly a month after it received the letter which was adopted at a joint meeting of the DPRK Central People's Committee, Administration Council, all political parties and social organizations, he said, and went on:

In particular, the South Korean authorities published so-called "results of investigation" into the jetliner incident the very day following the receipt of our letter, in a foolish attempt to keep off the influence of our proposal for the convocation of a North-South joint conference, and resorted to despicable tricks to mislead public opinion at home and abroad with a heinous anti-DPRK smear campaign.

They went so far as to challenge our sincere efforts for a new phase of national reconciliation and unity and the peaceful reunification of the country with the announcement on January 28 of a plan to stage together with the United States an extremely provocative "Team Spirit 88" joint military rehearsal.

Today a tense situation in which a war may break out any minute has been created on the Korean peninsula due to such anti-dialogue, anti-peace confrontation moves of the South Korean authorities.

I take this opportunity of calling upon all the political parties, social organizations, personages of all social standings and the entire other people in South Korea who love the nation and desire national reunification to decisively oppose the moves of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities toward confrontation and war and to make all sincere efforts for the early materialization of the DPRK's proposal for a North-South joint conference to make this year an historic year that witnessed a new epoch of national reconciliation and unity and peace.

The South Korean authorities must immediately stop such treacherous acts as engaging themselves in the policy of war and confrontation as servants of U.S. imperialism and give up their moves obstructive to the convocation of a North-South joint conference.

U.S. Says South Students 'Terrorist Group'
SK120523 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0512 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 12 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialist aggressors insulted as "terrorist group" the South Korean students who are fighting for independence against U.S. imperialism and for democracy against fascism, according to a radio report from Seoul. This desecration was expressed in an answer in writing of the U.S. Embassy in Seoul to the Seoul Regional Council of Student Representatives which is asking the U.S. ambassador to come out to negotiation with a view to protesting the U.S. pressure to open market.

In a nutshell, this is an intolerable challenge to the patriotic South Korean students, which is ventured by no one but those who behave themselves as the governor-general of a colony.

The U.S. imperialists did not recognize the execution of their right and defiled them as "terrorist group" like a thief crying "stop thief" this shows that the U.S. imperialists regard the South Korean people as colonial slaves and demand their colonial obedience only.

No Tae-u Remarks on South Security Criticized
SK120223 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
1150 GMT 8 Feb 88

[Commentary by station commentator Kim Kyong-pok:
"Traitor's Bellicose Gibberish"]

[Text] Traitor No Tae-u, at a recent briefing session where he received a so-called report on defense policies from the puppet defense minister, babbled that an independent force of deterrence against someone's capability of southward invasion should be constantly strengthened, that the system of security cooperation with the United States should be further strengthened, and the like. Such a gibberish uttered by the rascal precisely shows his treachery and bellicose intention to strengthen the maneuvers for confrontation and war against the fellow countrymen in collusion with foreign aggressors. This is tantamount to the traitor No Tae-u's open declaration that, like his predecessor, he will also desperately seek the road that runs counter to the country's peace and its peaceful reunification.

That puppet and traitor No Tae-u talked about someone's southward invasion and a so-called need to strengthen the independent defense capability against the North is nothing but a bellicose gibberish designed to reverse black and white. Not only once or twice have we declared that we have no intention to invade the South. We have also practically proven that we have no intention to invade the South.

Last year alone, we put forth an epochal disarmament proposal to reduce the armed forces of the North and the South respectively so that each side maintain only a small number of armed forces which are incapable of attacking its opposite side and which are necessary for its own defense. At the same time, we went so far as to take the positive step of unilaterally reducing 100,000 troops of the KPA.

Entering this year, asserting that although it is difficult to achieve the country's immediate reunification, both sides should not leave intact factors causing a war, which will bring a calamity to the nation, but should seek the way to live together in peace, we have advanced a new national salvation proposal to arrange a new turning point in achieving national reconciliation and unity between the North and the South.

The puppets are stepping up the military buildup on the pretext of the threat of a southward invasion, without responding to our peace proposal. This is because the puppets do not want peace, but have only a vicious intention to invade the North.

At the policy briefing, the puppet defense minister himself clamored that a high combat readiness has been completed according to an offensive military concept, that the time of combat preparations at frontline units

has been reduced to half, and the like. Thus, the puppet defense minister did not conceal the completion of the rascals' combat readiness for a war of northward invasion.

What we cannot overlook, in particular, is the fact that the puppets have strengthened their collusion with their U.S. bosses in a bid to prepare for a war of northward invasion. An example of this is the "Team Spirit-88" joint military exercise, a preliminary war for northward invasion and a test nuclear war, which is to be staged by the puppets together with the U.S. imperialists, and the plan to drag armed forces of the U.S. imperialist aggressors into South Korea and its vicinity on the pretext of security for the Olympics.

By frantically burying itself in its preparations for a war against the fellow countrymen in collusion with foreign aggressors the No Tae-u ring has revealed its true colors as a war servant for foreign forces and as the enemy of peace and peaceful reunification who seek confrontation and war only.

That puppet and traitor No Tae-u depicted the war preparations to attack the fellow countrymen as the establishment of a so-called independent defense capability while clamoring about strengthening the system of security cooperation with the U.S. imperialist aggressors—who are trying to impose a nuclear holocaust on our nation—is precisely a revelation of the way of thinking of those who have renounced the qualification of being a Korean.

Traitor No Tae-u babbled about so-called partnership with the United States in the relations of military cooperation. This is indeed preposterous. For [word indistinct] colonial servants, who have handed South Korea over to the U.S. imperialist aggressors as a military base and a forward nuclear base and who have handed the prerogative of supreme command of the puppet army over to their U.S. bosses, to talk about partnership in the relations of military cooperation with the United States is indeed preposterous.

With such a deceptive trick the puppets can by no means cover up their true colors as stooges of the U.S. imperialists and as watch dogs of a colony.

Facts show that as long as such traitors and bellicose as No Tae-u are left intact our nation cannot live in peace nor can the tense situation and the danger of war in Korea be eliminated.

The puppets' antipeace, criminal act which runs counter to the aspiration of the nation and the demands of the times will never be tolerated. We will keenly watch the puppets' reckless war maneuvers with high vigilance. We will deal stern blows to the rascals, if they provoke us indiscreetly.

KCNA Says South Students Being Drafted for War
SK121022 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1001 GMT 12 Feb 88

["Military Conscription for War Against North"—
KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang February 12 (KCNA)—The South Korean military hooligans began physical examination for conscription across South Korea from February 9, according to a report from Seoul.

The object of conscription involves students of at least high schools.

This is part of the military fascist clique's dangerous machinations to block the anti-U.S. struggle for independence and the anti-dictatorship struggle for democracy ever growing among the South Korean students and drive them out as cannon fodder for the U.S. imperialists' war of aggression on the North under the signboard of physical examination for conscription.

South Orders 'Three-Stage Emergency Alert'
SK110517 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0439 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 11 (KCNA)—The South Korean fascist clique on February 10 ordered the entire puppet police force again to enter into a "three stage special emergency alert" on the threshold of the traitor No Tae-u's "inauguration of the president," the March First popular uprising anniversary and the new school term, according to a radio report from Seoul.

In this fascist, repressive order the military blackguards cried for strengthening the "guard" of the traitor No Tae-u, saying the struggle against the "inauguration of the president" will be intensified among students and opposition organizations during this period.

This tells that the fascist clique are trying to put down at the point of the bayonet the struggle of people and students against the extension of the military rule and stage the "transfer of power" at any cost.

They have raised a whirlwind of suppression already with the traitor No's "assumption of office" just 15 days ahead, out of their guilty conscience and unrest, for they are the very criminals who rigged up the extension of the military rule by dint of money, government power and frauds, challenging people's demand for the establishment of a democratic government.

Inauguration Alert Criticized
SK120805 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
2151 GMT 11 Feb 88

[NODONG SINMUN 12 February commentary: "Desperate Maneuvers of Military Hooligans Who Have Turned Their Backs to the People"]

[Text] The South Korean military dictators are attempting to strengthen barbarous fascist repression of the people who are opposed to extension of military rule by again driving South Korea into the whirlpool of terror on the occasion of the presidential inauguration.

Such a criminal attempt is shown by the fact that on 10 February the puppet police headquarters handed down an order to police throughout South Korea for a three-phase special emergency guard posture from 16 February to early March. The puppets did not conceal that during the period of this special emergency guard posture they will concentrate their repressive forces on violently blocking the struggle of the people, youths, and students who oppose the inauguration of traitor No Tae-u, a military hooligan, as the president, as well as the struggle of the students which seems likely to be further enhanced with the beginning of the new semester.

This is another frantic maneuver of those who fabricated the victory of the military hooligan in the election through fraud and deception, cruelly trampling underfoot the demand of the South Korean people for the establishment of a civilian government, to realize their attempt to extend military rule at any cost.

As is known, at the end of last year, traitor No Tae-u committed a military coup to extend military rule under the signboard of an election. In this election, more than the majority of voters opposed and rejected traitor No Tae-u. The victory of traitor No Tae-u, a military hooligan, was concocted thoroughly by money, government power, and deception and fraud.

It is clear to everyone that the No Tae-u clique, rejected by the people, invoked the order of suppression because of anxiety over the advance of the people's struggle foreseen during the commotion of transferring power. Thus, the No Tae-u regime, which was concocted amid the wielding of bayonets of repression, is attempting to take its first step forward by wielding guns and bayonets against the people who call for democracy and an end to military rule.

Traitor No Tae-u babbles outwardly about democracy and so forth as if democratic development can be achieved in South Korea through his taking power. However, his remarks are a barefaced lie designed to win the people's favor and to deceive public opinion.

From the outset, what traitor No Tae-u learned and became familiar with are wielding bayonets and murdering people. He is indeed a most atrocious military fascist

hooligan. This is the very reason why the South Korean people strongly demanded traitor No Tae-u's resignation from the candidacy on the eve of the election, noting that No Tae-u is no different a rascal than Chon Tu-hwan, and expressed their will opposing the rascal in the election

Traitor No Tae-u is going to implement the military fascist rule in a more cunning and more atrocious manner than traitor Chon Tu-hwan after coming to fascist power by repressing the people calling for democracy with guns and bayonets. However, he cannot eradicate the people's aspirations and demands for democracy with guns and bayonets. Such an attempt is nothing but the last-ditch effort of those who have lost justification for taking power due to the people's resistance.

The South Korean people, who are filled with indignation because the direct election system they obtained with blood last year was illegally used for concocting the victory of a military hooligan in the election, are not going to allow traitor No Tae-u to come to power.

The Seoul National University students have already risen in the struggle against traitor No Tae-u's taking power. Foreign news reports foresee that such a struggle will be further expanded actively. If the South Korean military dictatorial force challenges and perpetrates cruel repression of this struggle with guns and bayonets, the mass struggle will explode on a larger scale.

Leaders Attend Three Revolutions Teams Rally
SK121300 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
1100 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] On the afternoon of 11 February, a central report meeting to mark the 15th anniversary of the launching of the Three Revolutions Team movement was held at the People's Palace of Culture.

A portrait of the great leader of our party and people Comrade Kim Il-song was hung with a red flag emblazoned with the words three revolutions as a backdrop on the front wall of the report meeting site. Also, seen in the report meeting hall were such slogans as: Long Live the Great Leader Comrade Kim Il-song! and, Long Live the Glorious WPK! The years 1973-88 were written on the backdrop behind the rostrum. Hung in the meeting hall were such slogans as: Long live the three revolutions elucidated by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song! and, Three Revolutions Team members should become the royal guard and death-defying unit of the party in implementing the three revolutions!

Attending the report meeting were functionaries of the party, our power organs, our administrative economic organs, party secretaries, managers of plants and enterprises, functionaries of party cadre-nurturing organs and universities; and Three Revolutions Team members.

Also, occupying the rostrum were Comrades Pak Song-chol and Yon Hyong-muk, members of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau; Comrades Kye Ung-tae, Chon Pyong-ho, and Kang Hui-won, alternate members of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau; Comrade Choe Tae-pok, secretary of the WPK Central Committee; functionaries working in the fields concerned; exemplary Three Revolutions Team members; and labor heroes hailing from Three Revolutions Teams.

The report meeting began with a chorus of the song of "General Kim Il-song."

Comrade Kye Ung-tae gave a report at the meeting.

Kye Ung-tae Addresses Meeting
SK120513 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0453 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 12 (KCNA)—A national meeting marking the 15th anniversary of the start of the Three-Revolution-Team movement was held Thursday at the People's Palace of Culture.

The meeting was attended by Pak Song-chol and Yon Hyong-muk, members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and others.

Kye Ung-tae, alternate member of the Political Bureau, and secretary, of the WPK Central Committee, made a report at the meeting.

Noting that the WPK dispatched Three-Revolution Teams to different branches of the national economy early in 1973, the reporter said it was a signal event which brought about great changes in socialist construction of the country.

He said:

The Three-Revolution-Team movement initiated and led by our party is a new powerful method of revolutionary guidance by which to more thoroughly ensure the party's revolutionary guidance in carrying out the three revolutions, ideological, technical and cultural, and to accelerate the building of socialism and communism.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said:

"In order to strengthen the guidance of the three revolutions in line with the new requirements of the revolution, our party proposed the Three-Revolution-Team movement and dispatched the teams composed of party hard cores and young intellectuals to various branches of the national economy."

This movement makes it possible to help and lead lower bodies and functionaries in keeping with the essential requirements of socialist society, do away with the old

and create new things and accelerate the three revolutions and thereby to strengthen the unity and cohesion of the masses behind the party and the leader, elevate their revolutionary enthusiasm and creative ingenuity and successfully push ahead with socialist and communist construction.

Indeed, it is a most superior and mighty method of revolutionary guidance that helps firmly ensure party's leadership of the three revolutions, strictly apply the great chongsanri spirit and chongsanri method and further organize and activate the ideological, technical and cultural revolutions so as to vigorously accelerate the cause of modelling the whole society on the chuche idea.

The initiation of the Three-Revolution-Team movement and its vigorous development in our country are a precious fruition of the wise guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and of the energetic activities of our party centre, that always grasp in time the matured requirements of the developing revolution and successfully meet them to bring about constant upswing in the revolution and construction.

The reporter said that in order to more vigorously push ahead with the ideological, technical and cultural revolutions on a new higher stage of our developing revolution when the task of modelling the whole of society on the chuche idea came to the fore, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song initiated the Three-Revolution-Team movement, a new method of revolutionary guidance, thereby providing one more strong impetus to the socialist construction of the Korean people.

He also pointed out that dear Comrade Kim Chong-il comprehensively expounded the theoretical and practical points to be permanently adhered to in the Three-Revolution-Team movement, including the principled tasks and ways of intensifying the activities of the Three-Revolution Teams in compliance with the requirements of the realities where the vigorous efforts for modelling the whole of society on the chuche idea are being made under the banner of the three revolutions, ideological, technical and cultural, and directed party organizations and Three-Revolution Teams in their work with his seasoned leadership to effect a new ceaseless upswing in the fulfilment of the tasks of the three revolutions and in all fields of socialist economic and cultural construction.

The vitality of our party's policy of the Three-Revolution-Team movement has already been proved convincingly in the practice of our socialist construction, he said, and stressed:

All the proud successes registered in the Three-Revolution-Team movement under the banner of the three revolutions, ideological, technical and cultural, are a

fruition of the wise guidance of the party and the leader, a due fruit borne by the vitality of the party's line of the three revolutions and its policy of the Three-Revolution-Team movement.

The reporter pointed to the tasks for consolidating the brilliant successes and experience already gained in the Three-Revolution-Team movement under the wise guidance of the party and more unrelentingly developing this movement in line with the requirements of the developing reality.

South UN Security Council Request Denounced
SK120810 (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation
in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] On 11 February, the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u clique, through Pak Kun, South Korean ambassador to the United Nations, requested that Walters, U.S. representative in the United Nations and president of the Security Council, convene an extraordinary session of the council in connection with the incident of the Korean Air jetliner, thus committing a reckless and senseless act.

In this request, the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u clique preposterously slandered the North while attempting to shift the responsibility for blowing up the KAL passenger aircraft onto the North and babbling that this incident was a terrorist act committed by the North to disturb the Seoul Olympics, a grave crime against peace and security of the world, and so forth.

As is known to all, this incident was a premeditated and intentionally self-produced drama of the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u clique designed to divert elsewhere the attention of the people from all walks of life who opposed the extension of the military dictatorship. The Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u clique fabricated the KAL incident and has already used it to concoct No Tae-u's victory in the presidential election. Not satisfied with this, the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u clique is viciously maneuvering to take advantage of this incident in the nation-selling treacherous unilateral hosting of the Olympics.

However, the truth of the KAL incident, a self-produced and self-staged drama of the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u clique, will be more clearly revealed to the world, just as one cannot conceal a gimlet hidden in a bag.

The Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u clique should discard the wicked anticommunist and anti-North smear campaign, should withdraw the unjust request for the convocation of a UN Security Council session, and should immediately step down from power bowing to the unanimous will of our people.

Sigur Remarks Show 'Bellicose' U.S. Attitude
SK121042 (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation
in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] In this hour, we will talk about the U.S. ruling circles' maneuvers for a military buildup on the pretext of the Olympics. Addressing a meeting of the Economic Council of the Pacific Nations on (?10) February, Sigur, U.S. assistant secretary of state, babbled that the most dangerous factor threatening peace in this region is the escalation of tension on the Korean peninsula and that the United States will actively support South Korea for its successful hosting of the Seoul Olympics.

This is another revelation of the bellicose attitude of the United States that has been hell bent on aggravating tension and on beefing up its armed forces under the pretext of the so-called security of the Olympics.

The Reagan administration has openly announced that during the period of the Olympics it will deploy one or two aircraft carriers accompanied by more than 10 naval escort ships in South Korean waters, move and deploy U.S. air force aircraft from the Japanese mainland and Okinawa to South Korea, and send U.S. marine forces to South Korea. The Reagan administration has also announced that during this period the United States will not only stage a joint mobile exercise of U.S. Naval and Air Force units without prior notice as a show of arms, but also increase its surveillance activity by reconnaissance planes and an intelligence satellite.

Despite the strong opposition and rejection at home and abroad, the United States is again staging the "Team Spirit-88" South Korean-U.S. joint military exercise, which will continue until May with the mobilization of the large number of 250,000 troops. Such maneuvers by the United States are precisely a vicious challenge to the ideal of the Olympics and the aspirations and desires of our people who want independence, democracy, and reunification. They are also an intolerable criminal act designed to aggravate confrontation and tension and to lead the situation to the brink of war.

This also tells us that the United States is scheming to utilize the Olympics in justifying its policy of occupying South Korea, accelerating its two Koreas plot, and stepping up its preparations for a new war, a nuclear war, on the Korean peninsula.

Although the U.S. ruling circles are clamoring about someone's obstruction of the Olympics, terrorism, and invasion, this is nothing but sophistry designed to cover up their criminal act.

It is already a well-known fact at home and abroad that there is no threat of southward invasion on the Korean peninsula. It is also a well-known fact that the North has made efforts to realize the cohosting of the Olympics.

Last year, in an effort to alleviate tension on the Korean peninsula, to preserve peace, and to arrange circumstances favorable for national reunification, the North put forth a disarmament proposal to reduce sharply the armed forces of the North and the South to 100,000 or less for each side and unilaterally reduced 100,000 troops. This is already a well-known fact at home and abroad.

This year, too, proceeding from the desire to make this a year for national reconciliation and unity, the North proposed that a North-South joint conference be convened and that the question of cohosting the Olympics and the question of multinational disarmament talks, including the suspension of the "Team Spirit" military exercise and other large-scale military exercises, be discussed at the conference. This is also a fact that the United States knows well.

This notwithstanding, under the pretext of the security of the Olympics, the U.S. ruling circles are attempting to concentrate their aggressive armed forces in South Korea and the waters around it, to stage military exercises, and, thus, to aggravate the situation on the Korean peninsula. This is indeed an intolerable criminal act.

The U.S. ruling circles are scheming to drag their aggressive armed forces, clamoring about the security of the Olympics, and are, thus, escalating the situation. However, in fact, lurking in this is a vicious and sinister plot to arrange favorable international circumstances for dividing our country into two Koreas, to divert the anti-U.S. and antigovernment sentiments of our people elsewhere by aggravating the situation, and to provoke a war of northward invasion, if necessary.

However, such a criminal act of the United States cannot escape the strong condemnation and rejection of our people and of international society and will only result in the worsening of anti-U.S. sentiment among our people.

The U.S. ruling circles should look directly at the trend of the times, should stop their reckless military buildup maneuvers and military exercises, and should withdraw from this land without delay, taking along the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons.

No Appointments Said Continuing Confrontation
SK120716 (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation
in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] On 11 February, No Tae-u designated Yi Hyon-chae, former Seoul National University [SNU] President, as prime minister of the new government and Hong Song-chol, former home minister, as chief presidential secretary.

Yi Hyon-che, who was designated as prime minister, was a professor and the director of student affairs at SNU and later, served as the president of SNU. Hong Song-chol, who was designated as chief presidential secretary, worked as Korean minister to the United States and home minister. Currently he is the vice chairman of the Presidential Advisory Council for Peaceful Unification and chairman of the Association of Refugees From Five Provinces in the North. This shows that the new No Tae-u government, which will come to office in the near future will consistently implement the anticommunist and anti-North policy for repression of the people and that it will pursue confrontation in North-South relations.

Yi Hyon-Chae, who was designated as prime minister, was at the forefront of the repression of the students as the government-patronized president. Hong Song-chol, who was designated as chief presidential secretary, also was at the forefront of the suppression of the people and viciously slandered the North, shouting: Reunification through victory over communists!

All this shows that the No Tae-u government is merely a replica of the Chon Tu-hwan military dictatorial regime. Our masses will never tolerate the No Tae-u military dictatorial regime, a second Chon Tu-hwan military dictatorial regime, and will overthrow it in the end.

Head of SKNDF Mission Arrives in Havana
SK102352 (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 10 Feb 88

[Text] Chief of the SKNDF's mission in Cuba, Yi Sang-chol, and its deputy chief arrived in Havana on 6 February.

Through a statement issued on his arrival at the airport, chief Yi Sang-chol declared that the SKNDF mission, which opened its office in Havana last September, would begin its work.

He said that the launching of the SKNDF mission's work was a significant starting point for fraternal relations between the SKNDF and the Communist Party of Cuba, forged amid the anti-U.S. struggle, to develop onto a higher stage.

Chief Yi Sang-chol stressed that he would make every effort to further consolidate the bonds of friendship between the South Korean people and the brave Cuban people.

SKNDF Central Committee Issues 1988 Slogans
SK110948 (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 10 Feb 88

["Full text" of slogans to indicate the fighting direction in 1988 issued by the SKNDF Central Committee on 4 February]

[Text] One year of resistance in which the struggle has continued has passed, and a new year of [words indistinct] movement in which fierce confrontation is anticipated has started.

Last year, the South Korean masses effected a new advance in the struggle for independence, democracy, and reunification. In particular, the historic June democratic resistance and the labor movement from July through September plunged the pro-U.S. military dictatorship into serious crises, thereby opening a wide breach in the colonial fascist system. During the days of the sacred struggle against foreign forces and comprador military and dictatorial forces, our democratic and patriotic forces grew to be powerful forces, which no one can disregard, even though they shed blood and suffered painful sacrifices.

The movement's hard core has grown tremendously and the work of awakening the masses of all walks of life with ideology and organizing them has been extraordinarily facilitated. Also, we have come to possess the firm faith that if we fight in unity, we are able to demolish the fortress of fascism.

However, none of the wishes of our masses have yet been accomplished. The task of democratization to eradicate the military dictatorship has reverted to the original point, and darker clouds are hanging over the path of independence and reunification—our wishes even in dreams. Despite the fact that our people fought, shedding blood, as they did, they failed to realize even the primary demand for establishing a civilian regime and they were again deprived of the fruit of the nation-saving movement by fascist forces. This was neither because struggle was weak nor because the fever of resistance was low, but because of the U.S. policy of colonial domination and its assistance to the military dictatorial forces.

We were taught a lesson of blood—as long as the U.S. domination over and interference with South Korea exist, our masses cannot realize national liberation, sovereignty, democracy, civil rights, and aspirations for national reunification.

This year our masses should awaken themselves again and concentrate all of their strength on the struggle to put an end to the domination and interference of the U.S. forces of aggression under the anti-U.S. banner of independence.

Democratization lies in the anti-U.S. struggle for independence. Without independence, there is nothing to hope for and expect even though the Chon Tu-hwan regime is replaced by the No Tae-u regime. A peaceful transfer of power under the U.S. colonial rule is nothing but a reorganization of the pro-U.S. dictatorial system and will bring about no change in essentials.

This year our masses should continue the grand march of democratization to overthrow the military dictatorship, upholding the anti-U.S. banner of independence in the vanguard.

National reunification is also linked to the anti-U.S. struggle for independence. The United States and the military dictators are trying to perpetuate national division by exclusively hosting the 1988 Olympic games. How are the Olympics, which will bring about a permanent national division, of use to our masses? This year our masses should frustrate the maneuvers of the splittists for the sake of reunification, which is more precious than the Olympics, and greet a new dawn (?on the road of) national reunification, which they have longed for only in dreams for the past 45 years.

Independence, democracy, and reunification can be accomplished only through our masses' own struggle. Compromise is death, and a wait-and-see attitude is the road to self-ruin.

The SKNDF Central Committee issues the following slogans, appealing to the patriotic masses of all walks of life to decorate 1988 as a significant year, in which a great epochal phase on the road to independence, democracy, and reunification opens, by arousing storms of struggle once again in this land.

1. Let us accelerate the antifascist cause of democratization and the cause of national reunification, upholding the anti-U.S. banner of independence.
Let us make the 1988 year a year of a nationwide anti-U.S. struggle for independence.
Let us eradicate the U.S. colonial rule and realize national sovereignty.
Let us restore national sovereignty, more precious than life, with the anti-U.S. struggle.
Abolish the unequal South Korea-U.S. treaties and accords which legalize dependence on the United States.
The people's march of democracy has been frustrated due to U.S. interference. Let us (?punish) Yankees who helped the military dictatorship reemerge by manipulating the fraudulent election.
Let us banish the United States, the sponsor of the No Tae-u military dictatorial regime.
The United States must not assist the military dictators.
Let us smash the U.S. brigandish pressure to open the market through the anti-U.S. struggle.
Let us not buy U.S. goods, rather reject U.S. capital.
Let us frustrate the war policy of the United States which is hell bent on a war of northward invasion by augmenting armed forces of aggression.
Let us object to the "Team Spirit" exercise, which will bring about a thermonuclear war, in a death-defying manner.
Let us banish the nuclear weapons which cause national ruin.
Let us regain the supreme prerogative of command over the South Korean army at an early date and expel the U.S. Forces from South Korea.
Let us drive away the Yankees, who block independent reunification.
Let us make 1988 a historic year to overthrow dictatorship and to achieve democracy.

Chon Tu-hwan and No Tae-u are twin military dictators. Away with the No Tae-u military regime, [words indistinct].

Why did dictatorship win a victory despite the fact that we voted for democracy? Let us reject No Tae-u who fabricated his victory through fraud.

The murderer of Kwangju cannot become the master of Chongwadae. Let us check the assumption of power by the No Tae-u dictatorship through death-defying resistance.

No Tae-u, clarify the truth of the Kwangju incident and receive the people's judgment.

Let us not be deceived by No Tae-u's call for democratic reconciliation, but achieve democracy through struggle. Let us smash No Tae-u's call for grand national reconciliation through the great unity of the democratic and patriotic forces.

Let all of us reject a peaceful transfer of power that extends the military dictatorship.

If the assumption of power by the No Tae-u dictatorship is tolerated, our masses will be ruined.

Let us frustrate a peaceful transfer of power that will bring about another Kwangju atrocity.

Let us turn parliamentary election sites into sites for declaring an end to military rule.

Completely abrogate the fascist evil laws and the suppressive organs.

Do not suppress the left-leaning and procommunist forces, but unconditionally release, amnesty, and reinstate all political prisoners.

Let us obtain the freedom of political activities of all progressive political parties and organizations and the masses of all walks of life.

Let us fight for the freedom to study of progressive ideas and the freedom to spread them.

Let us make the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u military dictatorship resign completely.

Let us overthrow the murderous regime of torture that tramples underfoot the basic human rights of the people. Pak Chong-chol, Yi Han-yol, and other patriotic martyrs are watching us. Let us bring the aspirations of the martyrs to full blossom through a vehement democratic resistance.

Let us overthrow the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u ring through another June democratic resistance and establish a genuine democratic regime.

Let us make the year 1988 a historic year to provide an epochal phase in national reunification.

Division is the way to subordination and national ruin. Let us reject foreign forces and achieve independent reunification.

We cannot live without reunification. Let us pioneer the destiny of the nation with reunification.

What in the world is the northern policy while there is incitement of confrontation among fellow countrymen? Let us open the gate of reunification through national reconciliation and unity.

Let us convene talks for reunification in which representatives of the masses participate.

Let us promote national reconciliation and unity by holding a North-South joint conference.

An obstacle is laid to national reunification due to anticommunism and objection to the North. Let us burn away the anticommunist state policy and realize reunification in coalition with communism.

Let us prevent the government and the ruling party from monopolizing discussion about reunification and provide an all-people forum for debate over it.

Stop all anticommunist intrigues inciting distrust and antagonism.

Let us object, in a death-defying manner, to the proposal for cross-recognition and simultaneous entry into the United Nations, which is designed to seek permanent division.

Let us accomplish the cause of reunification by founding a democratic confederal republic of Koryo.

We cannot exchange national dignity with gold medals. Let us resolutely reject the exclusive holding of the 1988 Olympics, which blocks independence, democracy, and reunification.

Let us promote grand national unity by cohosting the Olympics.

Let all of us oppose the exclusive hosting of the 1988 Olympics that crown the military dictator with laurels and impose a yoke on the people.

The Seoul Olympics are a preparation for perpetuating division. Let us reject the exclusive holding of the 1988 Olympics that perpetuate national division.

The Seoul Olympics will bring about a nuclear war. Let us oppose the Seoul Olympics, a repetition of Hitler's Berlin Olympics.

2. All patriotic masses from all walks of life should valiantly turn out for the sacred struggle for independence, democracy, and reunification.

Some 10,000 workers, the working masses are leading forces of the (?sacred) anti-U.S. and antidictatorial nation-saving struggle. You should fulfill your mission as a hardcore unit in the sacred struggle for independence, democracy, and reunification.

Let us smash the exploiting regime which coerces low wages, overdue wages, and unemployment and establish a democratic regime that guarantees the survival of workers.

There is no wage increase without struggle. Let us secure wages to guarantee livelihood through the workers' own struggle.

Let us abolish the evil labor laws, which stifle workers, and obtain the three labor rights.

Let us banish the patronized labor unions and form independent and democratic labor unions.

Let us improve the murderous working conditions and obtain the paid leave system and the social security system.

Let us oppose an unjust arrest and dismissal and turn out for the struggle to reemploy coworkers.

Let us burn away the black list that obstructs freedom of employment.

Ten thousand farmers, you are main forces in the movement for reform in South Korea together with the workers.

Let us valiantly turn out for the anti-U.S. and antidictatorial struggle for national salvation hand in hand with the workers.

Let us forestall the importation of U.S. agricultural and livestock products and open the way for the survival of ten thousand farmers.

Let us topple the military dictatorship, which exercises a plunderous agricultural policy, and realize democratic politics that guarantee the survival of farmers.

Let us form democratic farmers organizations, which defend the interests of farmers, and vitalize the farmers'-movement.

Let us abolish the farm land lease system, confiscate the farm lands of nonfarming owners, and distribute them to farmers.

Let us abolish all farm household debts, an outcome of the murderous agricultural policy.

Some 1 million students, youths and students are the main forces that pioneer a breakthrough in the anti-U.S. and antifascist struggle for national salvation.

Let us burn with ardent patriotism and become a fuse to ignite the sacred struggle for independence, democracy, and reunification.

Let us oppose campus suppression and obtain freedom for academic activities and social activities.

Let us object, in a death-defying way, to military training and coercive conscription which force us to become colonial mercenaries.

Let us oppose illegal arrests and expulsions and realize the reinstatement of the expelled students and the dismissed professors.

Students and youths should disseminate the idea of independence and trigger the anti-U.S. resistance for national salvation.

Educators, you are the guides of justice, truth, and patriotism. Let us pool our strength in turning out for the cause of justice against foreign forces, treachery, fascism, and division.

Let us reject toadying pro-U.S. education and practice nation-oriented education.

Let us oppose disciplinary measures without any just cause and realize the reemployment of the dismissed conscientious professors and teachers.

Let us join in the anti-U.S. and antidictatorial struggle of students who are fighting and shedding blood, and fulfill the duty of educators.

Journalists, you are the men who propagate truth and defend justice.

Let us fulfill the mission assigned by the times and the masses through a conscientious pen.

Democracy is just (?nominal) without freedom of the press. Let us abolish the evil press law and achieve a democratic press.

Let us reinstate the dismissed journalists and revive the publications that have been forcibly prevented from publishing through struggle.

Let us not become the servants of power, but the spokesmen of the masses and the buglers of struggle.

Small and medium-size businessmen, you should actively take part in the anti-U.S. struggle for national salvation.

Let us join in the grand march of independence, democracy, and reunification for the promotion of the national economy.

Let us oppose the U.S. pressure to open the market, which obliterates small and medium-size business firms, in a death-defying manner.

Let us rise up in the anti-U.S. and antidictatorial struggle to save our own country and our own businesses.

Let us banish the comprador tycoons, who sacrifice small and medium business firms, and develop national industry.

Opposition politicians, you are members of the nation-saving movement.

Let us turn out for the sacred struggle of patriotism, transcending differences in factions and factional interests.

Do not hold expectations of the United States and build a democratic society in unity with the people.

Compromise with fascism is an act of betraying the people.

Let us sever the dictator's snare of grand national reconciliation through struggle.

The lesson of the 16 December election stings to the core. The opposition forces should unite to overthrow the military dictatorship.

Religious figures, you are august members of the anti-U.S. and antidictatorial nation-saving fighting ranks.

Let us take part in the sacred struggle to save the oppressed nation, transcending differences in religions and branches.

Let us banish the Yankee crusade praising the occupation of South Korea under the disguise of religion.

Let us overthrow the military dictatorship, which habitually suppresses religion, and obtain the freedom of religious activities.

Let us make all cathedrals and temples the [words indistinct] sacred sites of patriotism.

Let us become martyrs who willingly devote life to the altar of democracy and national salvation.

Women, you are driving forces who take part in creating history.

Let us join in the sacred anti-U.S. and antifascist work of national salvation.

Let us banish U.S. wretches who infringe upon national chastity.

Let us overthrow the regime of prostitutes and establish a democratic government that defends the rights and interests of women.

Those bereaved families of the patriotic fighters should become mothers, brothers, and sisters who inherit their nation-saving will.

Patriotic soldiers, you are the [words indistinct] of the anti-U.S. and antidictatorial struggle.

Let us deal a decisive blow to the colonial, fascist dictatorship in stride with the nation and the masses.

Let us not become the colonial mercenaries of the United States, but the national army banishing foreign forces.

Let us not become the private soldiers of the military dictatorship, but the army of the masses to save parents and brothers.

Let us oppose military training aimed at a war of northward invasion and let us desert after laying down arms.

3. Let us further vitalize the mass movement on the basis of the *chuche* ideology.

The immortal *chuche* idea created by the respected and beloved President Kim Il-song is the only guiding idea of the nation-saving movement.

Let all of us firmly arm our spirit with the invincible and ever-victorious *chuche* idea.

Let us actively disseminate and propagate the *chuche* idea and further expand the ranks of its advocates.

The victory of the mass movement lies in ideological awakening work. Let us more substantially conduct the work of awakening the masses with ideology.

Let us expand the anti-U.S. nation-saving ranks into tens of millions of ranks in the way of 1 awakening 10, 10 awakening 100, and 100 awakening 1,000.

There are sites for awakening work among the masses. Let us raise the consciousness of independence by vitalizing ideological circles and night schools for workers among the masses of all walks of life and by activities at industrial and agricultural sites.

Organizing the masses is the force that pushes ahead with the anti-U.S. and antifascist cause of national salvation. Let us spur the organization of the masses.

Let us proliferate mass struggle organizations everywhere that the masses are.

Let us alert ourselves to the phenomenon of movement organizations being utilized by power and their leaning toward reformism and defend organizations from fascist suppression.

Let us actively nurture and protect the leading cores of the movement.

Let us concentrate all efforts on developing the movement into a masses-oriented one.

Unity is victory and division is defeat. The masses of all walks of life should unite over again.

Let us smash the trick of division and alienation, used by the United States and the military dictatorship, with the strategy of unity.

Long live the sacred cause of independence, democracy, and reunification!

South Korea

Spokesman Denounces North's 'Antinational Act'
SK120216 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean
0100 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] In a statement announced today by the spokesman of the Culture and Public Information Ministry, the government pointed out that the anticivilization and inhumane act of North Korea, which perpetrated the incident of blowing up the Korean Air passenger aircraft, and its impure camouflage maneuvers to gloss over its responsibility will by no means be tolerated. The government strongly urged North Korea to recover its national conscience and to assume a sincere attitude toward improving North-South relations.

The government stressed that all [Korean] people and all of mankind are enraged at the incident of blowing up the KAL aircraft, and that despite this, the North Korean side on 9 January perpetrated deceitful tricks including the so-called proposal for a North-South conference. The government stated that, in the name of the nation, it sternly denounces North Korea's shameless act of avoiding responsibility.

The government emphatically noted that the North Korean authorities should openly apologize for its terrorist act against the KAL aircraft, even now, instead of insisting on the unreasonable cohosting of the Olympics and should punish those who were involved in this incident. The government also stressed that North Korea should firmly ensure that it will not perpetrate such antinational acts again in the future and that it should provide an atmosphere that is favorable to North-South dialogue.

The government revealed that the North Korean side put forth some 107 so-called struggle slogans for 1988 while attempting to shift the responsibility onto our side for the blowing up of the KAL passenger aircraft, branding it as a self-produced drama and retaliation, instead of apologizing for the incident. The government noted that North Korea is adhering to detestable maneuvers to instigate the antigovernment struggle.

'Open Apology' Demanded

SK120500 Seoul YONHAP in English
0446 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 32 (YONHAP)—South Korea reiterated its demand Friday that North Korea apologize and punish those responsible for the bombing last November of a KAL (Korean Air) jetliner.

In a government statement on the North's recent proposal for holding a new round of inter-Korean dialogue, South Korea clarified that there has been no change in its chief position that it will not allow the North's brutal atrocity to get by without sanctions.

O Chong-su, spokesman for the Culture and Information Ministry, aid in the strongly worded statement that if the North really wants a dialogue, it would be more important than anything else for the North to offer an open apology and punish those who are responsible for the bombing of the KAL plane as well as to pledge a guarantee of no recurrence of similar anti-national acts.

O denounced as shameless behavior the North's claim that the bombing of the KAL jet was fabricated by the South, adding that the North has even revealed its schemes to instigate anti-American and anti-government riots in the South with an unusual 107-point slogan for what it called the struggle in 1988.

O disclosed that the North sent a telephone message on Tuesday to the president of the South Korean National Red Cross to confirm the delivery of letters it sent to representatives of the South Korean society concerning its proposed new round of inter-Korean talks.

We censure the North in the name of the nation for its shameless behavior in turning attention to the inter-Korean talks and avoiding its responsibility for the bombing amid worldwide rage over its brutality, O said.

O said the South will not tolerate any attempt by the North to deceive the nation or international society.

A woman suspect in the bombing confessed last month that she and her male companion were specially trained North Korean agents and had placed a bomb aboard KAL Flight 858 acting on orders from the highest authorities in the North.

Flight 858, which originated in Baghdad, Iraq, made one stop in Abu Dhabi and then vanished before a scheduled refueling stop in Bangkok en route to Seoul. The ill-fated plane, carrying 115 people aboard, is believed to have exploded in mid-air over the Andaman Sea off Burma.

North's Olympic Participation Left to IOC OW111229 Tokyo KYODO in English 1046 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Calgary, Feb. 10 KYODO—The head of the Seoul Olympic Organizing Committee (SLOOC) said Wednesday all matters relating to North Korea's pending participation in the Seoul Olympics lie solely in the hands of the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

Speaking to reporters at the press center, Pak Se-chik said North Korea should discuss with the IOC anything related to the Olympics and declined clear-cut comments on last month's Pyongyang-proposed government-level meeting, which, Pak added, is a political matter.

Pyongyang proposed early January that government ministers from the two sides and representatives of political parties and public organizations hold a special conference on February 19 in the truce village of Panmunjom in the Demilitarized Zone separating North and South Korea.

In this connection, Chong Ung, secretary general of the North Korean Olympic Committee, said Tuesday if South Korea rejected Pyongyang's call for the bilateral meeting, chances are slim that all the inter-Korean problems concomitant to the Seoul Olympics will be solved.

No Chae-won, the South Korean ambassador to Canada who was present at Pak's press conference, told the press that there is a possibility that North Korea would engage in sabotage similar to the bombing of a South Korean jetliner over the Thai-Burmese border late last year, or would even resort to war.

Working-Level Experts To Attend U.S. Beef Talks
SK120217 Seoul YONHAP in English
0208 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 12 (YONHAP)—Troubled by pressure from the U.S. Administration to open its domestic market to U.S. beef, the Korean Government will attempt a working-level approach in the new round of beef talks with the United States to be held in Geneva late next week.

Government sources here said Friday that the Korean delegation to the Geneva talks will comprise working-level experts from such pertinent government offices as the Economic Planning Board, the Foreign Ministry, the Agriculture and Fisheries Ministry and the Trade and Industry Ministry.

The sources said, however, that the government has not yet finalized the delegation's lineup.

The U.S. Administration, dissatisfied with the market-opening program offered by the South Korean Government, appealed to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) that the Geneva talks be held.

The Korean Government, frustrated by its unsuccessful bid to resolve the beef issue through a high-level mission earlier this year, has decided to send experts to the first round of the GATT-sponsored talks. The government expects that the talks will influence the ensuing negotiations, according to the sources.

Stunned by a U.S. threat at the end of last year to take retaliatory trade action against Korean goods unless its import ban on U.S. beef is lifted, the Korean government quickly dispatched deputy prime minister and economic planning minister Chong In-yong to Washington early this year.

Chong's mission, however, ended in failure and subsequently led the U.S. Administration, under pressure from the Congress faced with congressional elections this year, to make further demands on Korea to import U.S. beef for use not only at tourist hotels but also at tourist restaurants. In addition, the administration also chose to bring the beef issue to the GATT.

Joint Ventures in Fishing Sought With China
SK120117 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
12 Feb 88 p 6

[Text] Korea-China joint ventures in the fishing industry are expected to be activated, times with a government plan to ease regulations on imports of hauls caught from deep seas.

Sources at the National Fisheries Administration [NFA] said that the NFA will increase imports of hauls from deep seas while limiting the importation of fish kinds caught in coastal waters to protect local inshore fisheries.

China recently allowed a Korea-flag boat to operate in Chinese waters for the first time in the fishing history of the country.

Under the measure, aimed fostering joint ventures in the fishing field, NFA officials said that firms involved in the fisheries are expected to double their efforts to advance into the Chinese waters.

At present, Handoo Fisheries is engaged in a joint venture with a Chinese firm through its Hong Kong corporation. Handoo Fisheries, putting in four 100 ton class vessels for the joint venture, caught 1,260 tons of haul last year. Of the haul, 430 tons were brought into the country on three occasions, the officials said.

The officials said that Chinese authorities reacted positively to the Korean vessels' advance into its territorial waters.

According to the officials, the pertinent firms are likely to get involved in the joint ventures with Chinese firms after establishing corporations in Hong Kong to mitigate the possible psychological resistance.

In this context, the NFA plans to provide financial support to the firms seeking joint ventures with the country while studying the lowering of tariffs imposed on hauls from China, from the current 10 percent to 5 percent, officials said.

The officials said that about 2,000 tons of haul are expected to be carried into the country this year.

Nakasone Discusses Economic Issues at Seminar
SK111326 Seoul YONHAP in English
1308 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 11 (YONHAP)—Former Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said Thursday the world is ushering an era in which all nations should cope with global economic issue together.

Describing the world economy as being in the doldrums as shown in last October's stock crash in the New York Stock Market, Nakasone said the international community ought to work together to overcome economic recession.

We are entering an era of co-defense not only in security but also in the economy, he said, adding if the economy collapses, so does security.

Nakasone made the remarks in an address on the world situation and the economy delivered in a seminar the Ilhae Institute organized.

He also said the world is heralding the era of detente with the signing by U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev of intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) treaty.

Touching on developments in South Korea, Nakasone said the country has achieved great economic progress as if performing a triple jump during the past five years.

By the athletic term, he refers to what he called the solidification of the national economy, the attainment of democracy and of internationalization.

He predicted South Korea will join the the ranks of advanced nations after staging the Seoul Summer Olympics later this year.

Nakasone flew into Seoul Wednesday afternoon for a three day visit at the invitation of President Chon Tu-hwan.

Import Surveillance To Be Abolished in March
SK120055 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
12 Feb 88 p 1

[Text] Foreign goods are expected to flood into the domestic market this year as the government is poised to cut tariffs drastically and lift trade barriers.

Reliable sources said yesterday the government will abolish an import surveillance system, used as trade barrier, March 1 to help more foreign commodities get wider access to Korean markets. However, several agricultural products and narcotics will not be on the list of benefits. The surveillance system was originally planned for abolition July 1.

An additional 133 commodities will be free from import restriction, effective March 1, also four months ahead of schedule, the sources said.

The present tariff system will also be sweepingly revised by the end of this year, with an aim to cut tariffs sharply, the sources said.

The sources said the government will announce a comprehensive program to hike imports of foreign goods next week after finalizing the details this week.

The sources said the main frame of the program was shaped Wednesday when Economic Planning Minister Chong In-yong presided over a meeting of economic ministers.

Under the government's plan, the domestic market will be fully open to foreign commodities by 1991.

Behind the earlier market opening plan is a visit here next month by a delegation of the International Monetary Fund.

The government intends to take the initiative in exchange rate negotiation with the IMF delegation, the sources said.

The government also plans to lower the tariff rates from the current 18.1 percent on average to the 10 percent level gradually by the 19902.

In concrete terms. Tariff rates on manufactured goods will be lowered from 16.9 percent to 7-8 percent, and those on agricultural products from 25.2 percent to the 15 percent level on average.

In line with the market opening schedule, the government will select 60-70 items to benefit from lower tariff rates under the name of quota tariffs this week to stabilize prices by encouraging more imports with the tariff rate cuts.

Second Civilian Airline Set for Late-1988
SK120446 Seoul YONHAP in English
0438 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 12 (YONHAP)—A second civilian airline company will be established in Korea ending the 20-year monopoly of Korean Air (KAL).

The Transportation Ministry said Friday that it will license the Kumho Business Group to set up an airline company in order to cope with the increasing demand for air services.

Kumho will begin domestic air services before the end of this year and will later offer international services, the ministry said.

The group was selected because of its robust financial status and experience in the transportation industry, according to the ministry.

The second civilian airline will raise more than 60 percent of its capital by public offerings.

KAL, of the Hanjin Business Group, has monopolized air services in Korea since the state-run Korea National Air (KNA), KAL's predecessor, was denationalized in March 1969.

The demand for air services has increased recently in Korea reflecting the growing national income, and increasing trade and tourism.

The demand for air services is expected to increase rapidly after the Seoul Summer Olympics, the ministry forecast.

Businesses Agree To Establish Aerospace Group
SK120508 Seoul YONHAP in English
0442 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 12 (YONHAP)—In a move to support robust growth in the nation's aerospace industry, 13 South Korean businesses have agreed to establish an association tentatively named the "Aerospace Industry Association."

In a meeting Thursday, representatives of Samsung Aerospace Industries Ltd., Daewoo Heavy Industries Ltd., Korean Air and other companies decided to hold a sponsorship meeting in late February and a general meeting in March before launching the association.

The new association is expected to help prevent overlapping investments in the industry and excessive export competition, and also step up cooperative research for technology advancement.

Due to inadequate investments in the industry, domestic firms have barely been able to meet the burgeoning shipment orders from the United States for aircraft components due to the rapid appreciation of the Japanese yen currency.

No Tae-u Plans To Change Presidential Style
SK121009 Seoul YONHAP in English
0936 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 12 (YONHAP)—South Korea's next president No Tae-u will make it a rule to meet with the prime minister once a week and will elevate the cabinet's status after his inauguration on Feb. 25, staff members close to the president-elect said Friday.

The change in the president's governing style, designed to share the considerable powers of the president with the cabinet, was illustrated in a report submitted to no by the preparatory committee laying the groundwork for his presidency.

After being briefed on the report, No said that he wants to concentrate on major state affairs as president while leaving routine and administrative matters to heads of the various government ministries and agencies.

In particular, he added, it is desirable that the role and functions of the prime minister be strengthened and that the prime minister carry out his duty as the supreme adviser to the president on all state affairs.

On Feb. 11, No chose Yi Hyon-chae, a former president of Seoul National University and currently an economics professor at the university, as prime minister of his incoming government.

As stated in the report, No plans to consult with the prime minister whenever appointing members of the cabinet, and to confer with ministers whenever he appoints civil servants of the vice-minister rank and below except for agency heads and provincial governors.

According to the report, cabinet meetings will be revitalized so that when the prime minister presides, cabinet meetings will consider reports from sessions of economics ministers, security-related ministers, and social- and culture-related ministers.

As for cabinet meetings when the president presides, the meetings will handle matters of great importance and discuss issues which could not be resolved in ministers' meetings due to differences of opinion.

The report said that in order to improve the image of the president, priority in the new government's personnel management will not be given to relatives of the president or the first lady. In addition, the next president will regulate the political activities of his family members, and the first lady will regulate her own activities.

No will exclude authoritarianism in his relations with the people, thereby increasing his opportunities to talk with people from various walks of life, according to the report.

In addition, the new president will treat the National Assembly with more respect and meet with opposition leaders as often as possible in order to inform them of major state affairs and to also give them advance notice of new policies thus forging an atmosphere of cooperation with the opposition.

In another change of style, Chongwadae, the presidential residence, will be open to the general public on Children's Day, the report said.

Prime Minister-Designate on Future Tasks
SK120051 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
12 Feb 88 p 1

[Text] The Prime Minister-designate Yi Hyon-chae yesterday said that he will devote himself to "broadening the road for national reconciliation and democracy."

The new government's most urgent task will be to coordinate and digest diverse demands from various walks of life thus boosting national strength, Yi said.

He made these and other points at a brief press conference after visiting President-elect No Tae-u at his Sam-chong-dong office yesterday morning.

Asked about his plan to form his cabinet, Yi replied, "I was notified just hours ago. How could I think about that?"

However, he said that he will set about the work after hearing opinions from the President-elect.

Yi said that he was notified of being named prime minister when No called him at his home yesterday morning.

"I was surprised. But I could not turn down his earnest request," Yi said.

On economic policy, Yi said, "What I taught in school classrooms could be superficial and not help solve real problems. I should first hear from working-level officials to grasp reality."

As for college students' anti-government protests, Yi said that the problem will be solved naturally when the government regains people's trust and sincerely works for the people.

RDP, PPD To Make 'Utmost Efforts' To Merge
SK120109 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
12 Feb 88 p 1

[Text] The two major opposition parties took a major step toward a merger yesterday as the Reunification Democratic Party decided to adopt the single-lawmaker small constituency system demanded by the Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD].

Negotiators of the RDP and the PPD also agreed to make a joint effort to block the ruling party from passing its own electoral constituency formula, electing up to three lawmakers in each district, during the current special House session.

The agreement was reached in a meeting between the representatives of the two opposition parties at the Diplomatic Club restaurant yesterday.

A joint statement said the two parties would make "utmost efforts" to realize an opposition integration before the forthcoming legislative elections to beat the ruling camp.

Kim Chae-kwang represented the seven-member RDP negotiating team while Mun Tong-hwan headed the PPD mission.

It was the first session between the negotiators of the two leading opposition parties to realize opposition unity since the PPD was established last November after breaking away from the RDP.

They also decided to hold a joint meeting of parliamentarians of both parties to debate methods to unify the divided opposition.

The exact date of the joint caucus will be decided in the second meeting of the negotiators today at the Cesil restaurant in downtown Seoul.

The negotiators also agreed that floor leaders of both parties will participate in the joint meeting from today, aimed at further accelerating the integration.

Their participation will increase the number of each party's negotiators to eight.

After the meeting yesterday, Kim Chung-kil, spokesman of the RDP negotiation group, said the unified new opposition party will adopt the small constituency system but the RDP will stick to the medium-size constituency system if the opposition merger is not realized.

He added that the new integrated opposition party, if materialized, can be named anew and that key posts of the new integrated party will be allocated through compromise between the RDP and the PPD members.

During the meeting yesterday, the negotiators also discussed the need for Kim Tae-chung to retreat from active opposition leadership as a condition for the merger, the participants said.

In a separate evening talk, seven former RDP vice presidents agreed to seek a joint meeting of RDP and PPD lawmakers to discuss ways of unifying opposition forces within this week.

Six lawmakers who bolted from the two parties in protest against the opposition split will be allowed to take part in the meeting, Rep. Pak Yong-man said.

He said he expects that they would declare "unconditional merger" of the opposition parties in the debate.

Besides Pak, on hand in the talk were Rep. Kim Tong-yong and Choe Hyong-chae, No Sung-hwan and Yi Yjong-hui of the PPD.

Burma

President San Yu's Union Day Rally Message *BK121222 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese* 1002 GMT 12 Feb 88

[President U San Yu's message to 41st Union Day Rally held in Rangoon's Kyaikkasan Grounds, read by U Tun Yi, member of the State Council—live]

[Text] Indigenous people of the Union: I would like to extend my warm greetings to the indigenous people present at this 41st Union Day ceremony that is being observed in an atmosphere full of political meaning. Our socialist democratic state was established with the strength of the unity of all the indigenous people of the Union to build a prosperous socialist society.

In the socialist democratic state the main tasks—to firmly construct socialist economic enterprises, to further promote just social relations, and to defend and protect the people's interests—are to be carried out according to socialist democratic norms. The party, the state machinery, and the class and mass organizations are to strive to win the cooperation of the indigenous people in carrying out these tasks and in effectively serving the people's interest. They are to further promote the essence of socialist democracy through the strength of the unity of the indigenous people.

The socialist democratic state is based on the socialist economic system and it defends the socialist economic system. The goal of the socialist economic system is to build a new and peaceful society in which the people enjoy economic well-being and uphold good moral conduct. To realize this goal we must strive to make the existing economic undertakings free of weakness and deficiencies and to increasingly meet the people's demands for their economic and social needs.

As the socialist economic system is based on the participation of the people and is aimed at the welfare of the majority of the people, it is necessary for the entire working people, including the workers, peasants, intellectuals, and technical experts to participate both in body and in spirit. The indigenous people are to strive with might and main to bring about the economic development of the state.

In furthering the interests of the state and the indigenous people, all fields of enterprises and all regions must be free of destructive elements. The Armed Forces are fighting the destructive elements alongside the indigenous people to bring peace and prosperity to the whole country and to expand the work of socialist construction.

Presently, the Armed Forces are winning victory in fighting and crushing the insurgents, who operate only in some remote border areas, thanks to their outstanding combat ability and the active participation and cooperation of the local indigenous people. In this situation, it

is necessary to increase the military and organizational momentum and for the indigenous people to constantly cooperate with the Armed Forces to completely annihilate the destructive elements.

I would like to urge the indigenous working people of the Union to contribute to the successful implementation of the tasks in accordance with the political objectives of the 1988 41st Union Day.

French Transport Minister, Delegation Depart *BK111430 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese* 1330 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Mr Jacques Douffiagues, French minister of transport, and his delegation left Rangoon by air this evening.

The French minister and members of his entourage were seen off at Rangoon airport by Thura U Saw Pru, minister of transport and communications; U Tin Maung and U Tin Tun, deputy ministers of transport and communications; and Mr Georges Sidre, French ambassador to Burma.

Earlier this morning, the French minister and members of his delegation visited the Shwedagon Pagoda, the railways workshop in Insein, and the National Museum.

Article on Kachin Rebel Leader's Activities *BK090435 Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY* in English 30 Jan 88 p 5

[Kunblai article: "Brang Seng, the Wizard"]

[Excerpts] It is common knowledge that the KIA [Kachin Independence Army] led by Kachin insurgent Brang Seng is disintegrating militarily and economically from day to day owing to the operations launched by the people and the Tatmadaw [Armed Forces].

It has also become a well-known fact that Brang Seng has not even had a fixed hiding place but it always on the run after the Pyithu Tatmadaw's [People's Armed Forces] capture of the KIA headquarters camps of Pajao and Naphaw.

Under these circumstances Brang Seng, who is looking for a way out, visited some Asian and European countries and begged for help. The KIA leader did so not only to console and encourage the KIA insurgents whose morale is at its lowest ebb but also to get the Ma Da Ta [National Democratic Front] (of which the KIA is a member) think highly of himself and the KIA by thus showing off.

At the 33rd meeting of the Asia-Pacific anti-communist organization held in a country in Asia, Brang Seng begged the delegates attending the meeting to put pressure, on their return to their countries, on their respective governments to stop giving all the military and economic aids to the Government of Burma. [passage omitted]

At the meeting Brang Seng posed himself as an anti-communist so that he might be highly thought of by others. In this regard it will be necessary to expose the true mental make-up of Brang Seng—Brang Seng, who has the habit of saying and doing another thing behind their backs.

Brang Seng got the chairmanship of the Kachin insurgents' KIA at the beginning of 1976—a few months after KIA leaders Zau Seng, Zau Tu and Ponshwe Zau Seng (which took place in August 1975), had been killed. Brang Seng is pro-Burma Communist Party (BCP). He is one who wants to follow the leadership of the BCP. That was why he signed a cease-fire agreement with the BCP on 27 March 1976—soon after he had become the chairman of the KIA. However, the KIA rank and file opposed the BCP and showed their opposition to it whenever there arose an opportunity.

At present Brang Seng is still a follower of the BCP. The Ma Da Ta held a meeting at Brang Seng's headquarters camp Pajao before it was captured by the Pyithu Tatmadaw. It is learnt that the meeting decided to send a Ma Da Ta delegation to hold talks with the BCP. The meeting also decided that Brang Seng was to lead the delegation and that U Soe Aung was to be the deputy leader, Nai Aung Tin, to be the secretary and U San Maung to be the joint secretary of the delegation.

Therefore, Brang Seng, who has visited some countries posing himself as an anti-communist, is in fact a disciple of the BCP. Brang Seng has tried to keep this a secret but it is like covering the dead body of an elephant with the hide of a goat; everybody knows about this. There is another fact. Brang Seng has had no high political 'objectives' since he became the leader of the KIA. He has had no traditions as a KIA leader. He was not even a well-known one.

Thus, his aim is to engage himself in doing the business of buying and selling opium and smuggling out jade. Former KIA leaders Zau Seng, Zau Tu and Ponshwe Zau Seng, like Brang Seng, had engaged themselves in the black-market business of buying and selling opium and smuggling out jade and they had become rich. This caused dissatisfaction and disputes among the KIA insurgents and in the armed clashes that followed Zau Seng, Zau Tu and Ponshwe Zau Seng got killed in the other country on 10 August, 1975.

Now Brang Seng himself has taken charge of the business of buying and selling heroin and smuggling out jade. He is trafficking opium and buying and selling jade. He has

had contacts with the Naga insurgents and has been selling heroin through them. When the Pyithu Tatmadaw captured the KIA's strongholds of Sama camp, Jahpukawn camp, Khaibang camp, Lweyinhing camp, Lweje camp and Alawbon camp during July and August 1987, Tatmadaw units found heroin hidden by the KIA insurgents.

Moreover, it is learnt that the KIA has poppies grown on 700 acres along the mountain ranges between Mansi Township and the Shan State and on 400 acres in the valley between Inbarpar and Lweja.

A Tatmadaw operation column caught one black-marketing powered boat in the Mogaung chaung [stream] in Talaw area of Mogaung Township on 11-8-86. When the people seized were questioned, it was found that the boat belonged to 'commanding officer' of the KIA No 254 battalion La Zein Bauk. The Tatmadaw column also seized 72 viss [unit of weight used to measure narcotics] of opium found in the powered boat.

KIA leader Brang Seng, who has thus been doing opium business and whose involvement in the opium business has become an open secret, told an outright lie at the meeting of the anti-communist organization held in an Asian country. He said with a solemn face that "the KIAs are not involved in the business of buying and selling opium" and that "the KIAs have destroyed poppy fields three times." Since Brang Seng has the ability and knack of telling lies—of deceiving others into believing that a bed bug is a turtle and frost is fire, he ought to be named "wizard". [passage omitted]

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Thai Paper Says Seized Thai Boats Burned
BK120305 Bangkok THE NATION in English
12 Feb 88 p 1

[Text] Malaysian authorities have put to torch 40 trawlers they seized from Thai fishermen, said one of the fishermen who claim to have witnessed the burning.

Lae Dato told reporters that the trawlers were burnt near Langkawi Island, which is a short distance from the Thai fishing province of Satun.

He said the trawlers were seized from Thai fishermen who were accused of having violated Malaysian waters over the past few years.

But Pol [police] Lt Col Sombat Tinnarat, chief of the marine police in Satun, said he had not received any report about the burning of the trawlers.

"If it was true, the Malaysians might have wanted to intimidate Thai fishermen by doing so," he said.

Cambodia

Thai Military Actions in Week Ending 29 Jan BK111404 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 10 Feb 88

[Text] During the week 22-29 January 1988, the Thai side fired more than 2,000 artillery shells into [words indistinct] and Hills 285 and 509.

In the air, Thai aircraft—L-19's, F-5's, and [words indistinct]—conducted eight reconnaissance flights over the tri-border area in Preah Vihear Province, Phnum Kingkuok and O Bok in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, Phnum Malai in Banteay Meanchey Province, and Koh Kong Province.

Meanwhile, our Armed Forces, in close cooperation with Vietnamese Army volunteers, [words indistinct] Pol Pot bandits. They put out of action more than 235 of them, including 125 killed, 54 captured on the spot, and 56 surrendered. They seized 115 assorted weapons, (??) field radios, and some war materiel.

Hun Sen Receives Soviet Planning Delegation BK120421 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Comrade Hun Sen, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers, received at the office of the Council of Ministers on the afternoon of 10 February Comrade Petr Andreyevich Paskar, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first vice chairman of the Soviet State Planning Committee.

Comrade Hun Sen highly valued the delegation's visit to the PRK that has further strengthened and expanded the all-around cooperation between the Soviet Union and Cambodia. Through the delegation, the comrade chairman of the Council of Ministers expressed the profound gratitude of the Cambodian party and people to the Soviet party and people who have wholeheartedly supported the PRK.

In his reply, Comrade Petr Andreyevich Paskar expressed satisfaction with the outcome of his visit to the PRK and his impression of the growth of the Cambodian revolution during the past more than 9 years. The comrade stressed that upon his return home he would strive to promote the all-around cooperation between the PRK and the Soviet Union.

LE MONDE Questions Sihanouk About Resignation PM121116 Paris LE MONDE in French 12 Feb 88 p 4

[Report on written interview with former Cambodian leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk by Francis Deron in Beijing—date not given]

[Text] Beijing—"Wait and see," was how Prince Norodom Sihanouk summed up his position after a series of dramatic events in which the former monarch has played

a prominent role, although without as yet securing any compromise gesture from Hanoi.

First, there was his "irrevocable" decision to resign as president of the anti-Vietnamese resistance coalition, then, after some thought, a Vietnamese "nyet" to Sihanouk-Hanoi negotiations on the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia. Finally, immediately after that, there was the arrival in Beijing of Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan who had come to beg him, with all the earnestness of which Beijing's proteges are capable, to go back on his decision to resign. Sihanouk's reply was to postpone any new decision and to ask Prince Ranarrit, his son, to represent him at the meeting of the cabinet that runs the resistance coalition, held on the Khmer-Thai border on Wednesday, 10 February.

At the same time, Beijing rejected Hanoi's traditional Lunar New Year offer to resume talks on normalizing the situation on the Chinese-Vietnamese border. Conditions for that are "clearly not right," according to China, because of new Vietnamese "armed provocations," although these were not very severe, according to Chinese reports.

Prince Sihanouk, who still refuses to meet with journalists, explained his tactics in the written answers that he sent to us: "The Vietnamese are very pleased about my resignation," but are still "disdainfully" refusing to open dialogue.

"This forces me to return to a more cautious attitude," toward the Democratic Cambodia coalition—the "monstrosity" from which he wants to resign. "I cannot yet give a categorical 'no' to the pressing demand of the Khmer Rouge" to stay at the head of the coalition, because that would have the effect of increasing Vietnamese "intransigence." It will therefore be necessary "to wait a few months before seeing what they (the Vietnamese—LE MONDE editor's note) plan to do in the political sphere." The prince said he was "extremely confused about the real intentions" of Hanoi and of Moscow, and everybody feels that forceful diplomatic pressure from Moscow on Vietnam could break the deadlock.

Does he still enjoy the confidence of the Chinese, who have treated him noticeably fairly since he returned to Beijing? "Neither China nor the Khmer Rouge are happy about my talks with Hun Sen (Phnom Penh prime minister—LE MONDE editor's note) nor about his overtures toward Hanoi. But Beijing and Pol Pot's men are "too intelligent" to go against the will of the "vast majority of Cambodians and of the governments" that support him. "I cannot imagine that Beijing could treat me now or in the future as Son Sann has done"—Son Sann, the leader of the resistance's other nationalist wing accused the prince of playing into Hanoi's hands last month. The Chinese camp is bound to "be reassured" by the deadlock in negotiations with Phnom Penh and to "silently hope" that the prince fails.

What is the state of the anti-Vietnamese coalition after these fruitless angry exchanges? Its declarations of unity are merely "platitudes." The Cambodians' fate does not rest with any of the Khmer armed factions, it rests with China, Thailand, Vietnam, and the USSR, which can decide "on a compromise or on an endless continuation of the war in Cambodia." "But I am not discouraged. I will continue."

Can the Khmer Rouge still hamper any political solution? Sihanouk thinks so, despite the "visible decline" in the military power of Beijing's proteges. They have "infiltrated their agents into all villages, communes, districts, provinces, cities, and administrative and military sectors" of the Phnom Penh regime, and the Cambodians still fear the Khmer Rouge more than the Vietnamese. "The day when the last Vietnamese troops withdraw from Cambodia, the Khmer Rouge will seize absolute power there again without any difficulty."

"In conclusion, we are faced with trying to do the impossible: The Vietnamese will not leave Cambodia until the Khmer Rouge Army has disappeared. And the Khmer Rouge will not accept any peaceful political solution until the Vietnamese have withdrawn all their troops from Cambodia unconditionally." In short, Sihanouk is doomed to continue alone his difficult task of trying to find a way out of the trap in which his country is caught.

Son Sann Meets KPNLF Leaders in Border Area
BK110221 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
11 Feb 88 p 3

[Text] Ta Phraya—Prime Minister Son Sann of the tripartite Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea yesterday travelled to the Thai-Kampuchean border to meet with top military and civilian leaders of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front.

Diplomatic observers saw Son Sann's sudden visit as an attempt to quell an attempt by KPNLF military commanders to oust him as leader and replace him with a military commander, Gen Sak Sutsakhan.

But in a telegram to the BANGKOK POST last night, Maj-Gen Pan Thai of the Khmer People's National Liberation Armed Forces General Staff denied that any such attempts were being made to replace Son Sann.

The outcome of the meeting was not known. Past attempts to oust Son Sann have all failed.

SRV Truck Convoy Attacked; 18 Soldiers Killed
BK120210 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT
11 Feb 88

[From the "Daily Report From Various Battlefields" feature]

[Excerpt] Mondolkiri battlefield: On 30 January, our National Army in cooperation with the patriotic Cambodian soldiers ambushed a Vietnamese truck convoy

carrying weapons and ammunition from Dac Lac in Vietnam to Mondolkiri Province. We set a truck ablaze. Eighteen Vietnamese soldiers on the truck were killed and 15 others were wounded. All the weapons and ammunition on the truck were destroyed. [passage omitted]

Indonesia

Appointment of New Armed Forces Chief Viewed
BK111346 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian
1200 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] Armed Forces Commander General L.B. Murdani's announcement after meeting with President Suharto yesterday that General Tri Sutrisno will replace him as Armed Forces commander is quite interesting. Gen Murdani said General Tri Sutrisno will be installed as the new Armed Forces commander on 7 March, while the transfer of command will be held on the following day. As for the post of Army chief of staff currently held by Gen Sutrisno, Gen Murdani said that it will be held by the deputy chief of staff, Lieutenant General Edi Sudrajat, who is scheduled to be installed after 20 February.

Asked by newsmen to comment on why the ceremony to install and transfer the post of the Armed Forces commander will be held during the general session of the People's Consultative Assembly, Gen Murdani said it means that the situation is normal. We attach great importance to this statement, which is a proof of [word indistinct] within the Indonesian Armed Forces [ABRI], especially in carrying out its dual-function mission. As far as organizational structure, efficiency, and regeneration are concerned, ABRI can be considered to be the most successful among government agencies. While ABRI admits that there are still shortcomings within the armed service, such things are considered normal and ABRI is making continued efforts to overcome them so it can improve its personnel and armament system. During a hearing with Parliament's Commission I, Defense and Security Minister Poniman once said that an armed force, which is small but effective, and efficient, is the only answer to various challenges, threats, obstacles, and other disturbances which may obstruct ABRI's growth.

Meanwhile, speaking in Bandung some time ago, Armed Forces Commander Gen Murdani stressed that national stability cannot be maintained through military means alone because security stability, though an important element, must be accompanied by stability in other fields.

In addition, there are four basic rules which cannot be violated by a high-ranking ABRI officer. First, an officer's sincerity in politics as stipulated in the Sapta Marga [seven military pledges] and [words indistinct]. This

means that each military officer must hold political views compatible only with the Pancasila state ideology. Second, personal integrity and determination not to abuse power and not accumulate material goods that do not belong to him. Third, professional ability, and fourth (reputation), which is reflected in daily life, duties, and personal life. In this connection, the president, who is also the supreme commander of the Armed Forces, has appointed Gen Tri Sutrisno as the new Armed Forces commander effective next month. Gen Sutrisno is given the honor because he is considered to be mature enough to hold the post and able to serve as a motivator in enhancing the dual-function role of ABRI along with the increasingly smooth application of the Pancasila state ideology in the country.

Minister Says Transmigration Goals Surpassed
BK11149 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian
1200 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Transmigration Minister Martono says that press reports of possible closure of neglected transmigration sites have in fact been a blessing in disguise because they have made the government surpass the target of its transmigration program during this Fourth Repelita [5-Year Development Plan].

Martono made the remarks after meeting with President Suharto at the Bina Graha Presidential Office in Jakarta today. Martono explained that thanks to the press reports, the number of resettled transmigrants from the beginning of the Fourth Repelita up to now stands at 584,342 families or 1.62% higher than the target.

Laos

'Urgent' Message Sent to Thailand's Prem
BK111450 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
1400 GMT 11 Feb 88

["Urgent" message from Kaysone Phomvihane, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the LPDR, to Prem Tinsulanon, prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand—dated 11 February]

[Text] To His Excellency Prem Tinsulanon, prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand:

As Your Excellency is aware, the incidents taking place in Na Banoi canton, Boten District, Sayaboury Province, have been going on for a long time and have brought a great and wasteful loss of life and property to the peoples of our two countries. The incidents have gone against the two Lao-Thai joint statements of 1979 and seriously undermined the fraternal relations between Laos and Thailand. Events are taking place daily that endanger peace and stability in the region.

In view of this serious situation, it is urgent that the problem be settled through talks. Adhering to its consistent policy of maintaining the traditional relations of

friendship and the just interests of the two peoples, and for peace and stability in Southeast Asia, the LPDR Government has, on many occasions, proposed that the two sides join in settling the disputes in the area through talks, on the basis of equality and without any precondition. It is regrettable, however, that the Lao side's proposals, particularly the proposal stipulated in the LPDR Government's statement of 25 January 1988, have not received the appropriate response. On the contrary, the situation in the area has deteriorated.

To immediately end the senseless loss of life among the fraternal Lao and Thai peoples, I deem it urgent that the military of both sides be scheduled to meet to settle the problem together. The LPDR Government is ready to send its military delegation to Bangkok and is also willing to welcome a Thai military delegation in Vientiane to discuss the following proposals:

1. The two sides immediately observe a cease-fire, widely separate their military forces, and set up a joint military control commission to supervise the cease-fire and the separation of the military forces.
2. The two sides appoint technical delegations to verify the evidence in the area and to seek a means to settle the border problem in the area for presentation to the governments of the two sides.
3. The two sides appeal to the UN secretary general, asking for support for the implementation of the agreement reached by the two sides.

I hope that Your Excellency will respond positively to our proposal made in good faith, in order to put an end to the bloodshed as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

[Signed] Kaysone Phomvihane, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the LPDR

[Date] Vientiane, 11 February 1988

PASASON Praises Message
BK121151 Vientiane KPL in English
0921 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Vientiane, February 12 (KPL)—The daily "PASASON" today frontpages an editorial welcoming the urgent message forwarded to the Thai prime minister by the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao PDR, describing it as a proof of the constant stance of good will of the Lao PDR for a reasonable solution to the bilateral problems.

The urgent message of Kaysone Phomvihane sent yesterday to his Thai counterpart Prem Tinsulanon, "PASASON" points out, has clearly reaffirmed Laos' willingness to find measures for settling the disputes occurring

at Na Banoi village, Boten District, Sayaboury Province, thus aiming at ending useless bloodbath of the Lao and Thai peoples who, after all, are linked by the same blood.

The paper, on the other hand, points out adverse consequences resulting from current dispute which is seriously jeopardizing the brotherly Lao-Thai relations, and threatening peace and stability in the region and the world.

"The constant policy of peace of the Lao PDR is clearly embodied in the proposals systematically issued by the Lao PDR for the peaceful settlement of the problems," PASASON notes. In this respect, the Lao proposal dated January 25, 1988 is absolutely conforming with the Lao and Thai peoples' aspirations for an immediate restoration of their brotherly ties which is in line with the world appeal including that of the UN secretary general as spelled out in his messages to the Lao and Thai foreign ministers.

The daily paper recapitulates the three points mentioned in the message of the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao PDR which [words indistinct] will help end unnecessary loss of blood of the two countries' peoples.

"If the Lao proposals, especially the three-point proposal defined in the message of the Lao Government's head (1. Cease fire and move their troops away from each other and establish a joint military supervision commission. 2. Nominate a technical survey team for on-the-spot inspection. and 3. Both sides ask for the good offices of the UN secretary general for ensuring the execution of agreements approved by both sides) receive positive response from Thailand, it will pave a way to the peaceful settlement of Lao-Thai problems," PASASON concludes.

Thai Aircraft Said To Bomb Village 11 February
BK120108 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0000 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] According to a report from Boten District, at 0710 yesterday, four Thai F-5 aircraft dropped many bombs onto Na Kok village, which is located some 30 km inside Lao territory, in Boten District of Sayaboury Province. As a result of the bombardment, a number of people were killed and wounded; two houses and a school burned down; and nearly 20 buffaloes and cows were killed.

From 0530 to 1530 on the same day, the Thai reactionary troops indiscriminately pounded nearly 300 rounds of various types of artillery shells on villages such as Mouang Phe, Mai, Na Dong, Na Thao, Bo Hangna, Phon Savan, Na Tao, and other areas in Na Banoi canton.

The artillery shelling and aerial attacks on the villages—which are not military targets—compose a most vicious and inhuman act that the general public can never

forgive and regards as an act against innocent people. We oppose and condemn this criminal act and hope that the justice-loving public opinion in Thailand and the world will oppose this unethical act. The general public maintains that the use of military force is not a good way to solve problems. There is one way to end the losses of lives of the Lao and Thai peoples who share the same race—that is, the Thai side must respond to the Lao side's correct proposal for talks to settle the conflict that was announced on 25 January and 11 February 1988.

Thai Accounts of Military Operation Countered
BK120920 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0430 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Commentary: "The Operation That Has Failed"]

[Text] The Armed Forces and people of Boten District, upholding the heroic spirit of the LPA, have resolutely counterattacked and defeated the military operation of the Thai ultrarightist reactionary troops who are intruding into Lao territory in the vicinity of Na Banoi canton in Boten District, Sayaboury Province. They have firmly defended their positions and duly punished and inflicted heavy casualties on the intruders, shooting down several Thai warplanes. They have also foiled the large-scale operation of the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries who pledged to win victory within 2 days. This has stunned the people of the world.

How could the Armed Forces and people of Boten District defeat an enemy with a huge army and modern weapons—including chemical weapons—in blatant violation of international law? During the 2-day military operation, the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries thought they would be able to completely wipe out the Armed Forces of Boten District. Therefore, they used all of their best combat units, including those from the 2d Army Region and the Pa Wai special warfare unit from Lop Buri Province. They threw in everything they had to the extent that the Thai Army commander, concurrently serving as acting supreme commander, came down to directly supervise the operation aimed at driving the Lao Armed Forces out of their positions. During the 2-day operation, Thai troops fired all types of artillery shells at our Armed Forces' positions while their F-5 aircraft continuously bombarded our territory. However, since their aircraft had to fly high for fear of being shot down as has happened in the past, their bombs fell onto the Thai infantrymen and killed several Thai reactionary soldiers. On many occasions, the Thai reactionary troops fired artillery shells at the Thai infantrymen, killing hundreds of officers and men. Although the reactionary bosses have refused to reveal casualty figures, the general public is well aware of the fact that the number of Thai soldiers, men and officers, who were killed in the battle has been high. Lieutenant General Siri Thiwapphan, commander of the Thai 3d Army Region, said during an interview that a group of ill-intentioned people made phone calls to schools and educational institutions telling them about the casualties suffered by the Thai side.

In fact, this group of people love the country and justice. They are not fooled by the deceitful and senseless propaganda launched by the Thai ultrarightists. This has proved that the majority of the Thai people do not agree with the warmongering actions of the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries.

During the offensive drive, they have used all the propaganda means at their disposal to propagate the lie that Thai troops have captured this or that place and that they are marching forward steadily and will soon succeed in driving the Lao Armed Forces from the area they claim as Thai territory. In reality, everyone knows that their hooligan-style military operation failed within a short period of time. The arrogant tone of the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries simply evaporated. Their shameful defeat is being exposed to the world because they are a big country that is bullying a smaller country. They have impaired the dignity of the Thai Armed Forces.

To rescue themselves from embarrassment, the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries have cited the accuracy of artillery shelling from the Lao side to support their groundless accusation that third countries are backing Laos. This unreasonable accusation is not only incredible but also detrimental to the Thai people's confidence in the Thai Armed Forces' efficiency. What evidence have they to prove that other countries are involved in counterattacking the Thai reactionary troops' intrusion into the sacred territory of the Lao nation? The Lao people's Armed Forces have been tested and tempered by the flames of the wars for national liberation for many decades, accumulating most fruitful lessons. Our Lao Armed Forces' combat efficiency can be verified by the complete victory we won in liberating our country from the yoke of imperialist domination, new and old colonialism. Their heroic combat tradition has been continuously promoted.

The LPDR has always expressed its goodwill by declaring that it has no intention of using military force to settle the conflict with its neighbor Thailand. Laos has never once launched any aggression against any neighboring countries. It only wants to peacefully coexist with them so as to develop its underdeveloped and backward country and march toward civilization. Therefore, why should Laos have foreign troops to help it in the fighting since the conflict can be settled through peaceful means? Laos is well aware of the fact that war is not conducive to peace and security. By making such a groundless and unreasonable accusation against Laos' friends, the Thai reactionaries will be further isolated and condemned to face more shameful defeats.

Nouhak Phoumsavan Briefed on Sihanouk Talks
BK121159 Vientiane KPL in English
0936 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Vientiane, February 12 (KPL)—Nouhak Phoumsavan, Politburo member of the LPRP CC, first vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, on January 10

received here Dit Munti, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the PRK and special envoy of Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of foreign affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

On this occasion, Dit Munti informed Vice-Chairman Nouhak Phoumsavan about the result of the second-round talks between Hun Sen and Samdech Norodom Sihanouk held in Paris on January 20-21, 1988. Hun Sen's special envoy said that they were held as agreed at the first round of talks held in France on December 1, 1987. The last meeting, the special envoy said, took place in a good atmosphere of cordial friendship and mutual understanding. Dit Munti added that the meeting was a success for the finding of solutions to the Kampuchean issue by political means, and to stop the military confrontation—thus establishing a basis for national reconciliation in Kampuchea.

The two sides, with constructive sincerity, discussed in detail measures for solving the problems according to the objective reality in country, and meeting today's international trend.

The two sides, said Dit Munti, unanimously adhering to peace, independence, neutrality and non-alignment. [sentence as received] Norodom Sihanouk and Hun Sen, said he, also agreed to continue their discussion with sincerity on the basis of quality and justice, all of which are aimed at guaranteeing the interests of the Kampuchean people and the nation.

The two sides agreed to hold the third and fourth rounds of talks respectively in Pyongyang and Paris. The fifth meeting is to be held in New Delhi, said Dit Munti.

Nouhak Phoumsavan, for his part, thanked Dit Munti for the information. He also welcomed the successful talks between Hun Sen and Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. He attributed the success scored at the last talks to the untiring efforts and the constructive ideas full of goodwill from both sides aiming at settling the Kampuchean issue without foreign interference. By doing so, N. Phoumsavan said, the strong aspiration of the Kampuchean people to restore peace and to implement the policy of national concord in Kampuchea can be met.

During this cordial talk, Nouhak Phoumsavan stressed that the government and people of the Lao PDR highly valued this great success and fully support this second meeting between Hun Sen and Sihanouk. He described it as not only the right way of national reconciliation, but also meeting today's world trend for solving conflicts by political means and talks—thus establishing an atmosphere of peaceful coexistence among countries in the region and in the world.

The Lao first vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers continued that the Lao PDR would do its best, together with the peoples of Kampuchea, Vietnam, the Soviet

Union and other friendly countries to as soon as possible solve the Kampuchean issue, thus contributing to the promotion of peace, security and cooperation in South-east Asia.

At the end of the meeting, Nouhak Phoumsavan, on behalf of the leaders of the Lao PDR, sent warmest fraternal greetings to Heng Samrin, Hun Sen and other party and state leaders of the PRK, wishing the fraternal Kampuchean people still greater success in their tasks of national defence and construction.

Nguon Phansiphon, Kampuchean ambassador to the Lao PDR was also present at the meeting.

During his stay here, Dit Munti met and exchanged views with Soulivong Phasitthidet, deputy-minister for foreign affairs of the Lao PDR. The talk took place in a good atmosphere of fraternal friendship. They unanimously agreed to continue their cooperation and support of each other for the sake of consolidation of the special friendship, militant solidarity and all-round cooperation between the Lao PDR and the PRK as well as among the three Indochinese countries.

Outgoing New Zealand Envoy Received

*BK121155 Vientiane KPL in English
0920 GMT 12 Feb 88*

[Text] Vientiane, February 12 (KPL)—Phoumi Vongvichit, acting-president of the Lao PDR received here on February 11 Bruce MacDonald Brown, New Zealand ambassador to the Lao PDR, who is about to end his mission here.

During the talk which took place in a warm and good atmosphere, Phoumi Vongvichit wished the ambassador a good journey home and success in his new post.

Bruce MacDonald Brown has been appointed the New Zealand ambassador to the Lao PDR since January 15, 1986. The chancellery is in Bangkok, Thailand.

Philippines

Aquino Said 'Considering' Limited Martial Law

*HK121121 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
1000 GMT 12 Feb 88*

[Text] President Aquino is seriously considering the proposals for the declaration of martial law as the most effective way of ending the communist rebel movement, which is becoming more powerful. The president has told reporters that the decision will be based on the recommendation of the Department of National Defense. Here is a report from Sel Baesa:

[Begin recording] AFP [Armed Force of the Philippines] deputy chief for civil relations Brigadier General Honesto Isleta has asked for the legislation of stricter laws to effectively control the communists, whom he said do not respect the current laws.

In addition, Press Secretary Teodoro Benigno has said the democratic way of facing a communist insurgency has never been successful in any part of the Third World. According to Benigno, the most effective way to combat communists is to impose martial law, or another form of authoritarian rule. The authoritarian form of government is being successfully implemented in El Salvador, Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia. Benigno admitted that during past crises in the country, including the failed coup attempt last 28 August, the president considered the idea of declaring martial law. [end recording]

Sel Baesa, Bureau of Broadcast Services News, Malacang.

Seeking Defense Recommendation

*HK120738 Hong Kong AFP in English 0729 GMT
12 Feb 88*

[Text] Manila, Feb 12 (AFP)—President Corazon Aquino indicated Friday that she was considering proposals to impose selective emergency rule in a bid to check the communist insurgency.

A number of congressmen were calling for the imposition of martial law in selected areas to check the 19-year-old insurgency following a proposal from a senior military official.

"I will get the recommendation first of the department of national defense," Mrs. Aquino told reporters at the presidential palace as Manila newspapers carried headlines on the possibility of limited martial law.

Diplomats here consider it unlikely that Mrs. Aquino will use martial law in the near future, but the chief executive has not totally ruled out the option if warranted by national security.

Congressman Rodrigo Gutang, a retired general who heads the House Committee on Public Order and Security, announced Friday that he was sponsoring a bill calling for selective martial law.

"Congress is supposed to put up the legislation that will help the executive department combat the insurgents," he said.

The martial law call followed a proposal for selective emergency rule from military counter-insurgency expert Brigadier-General Honesto Isleta.

Mrs. Aquino's chief spokesman Teodoro Benigno told reporters Friday: "I don't know that she has any position right now" on the proposal.

He said Mrs. Aquino had considered imposing martial law during a bloody military coup attempt here last August.

"I don't know that there was any argument raised against the declaration of martial law," he said, adding that the then defense secretary Rafael Ileto believed that people would call for it if things got out of hand.

The constitution states that the president may declare martial law for a maximum 60 days "in case of invasion or rebellion, when public safety requires it," subject to congressional approval for extension.

Deposed President Ferdinand Marcos ruled by martial law from September 1972 to January 1981, jailing thousands of opposition members and dissidents led by Mrs. Aquino's husband Benigno Aquino.

In the past Mrs. Aquino, who was brought to power by a popular revolt two years ago, would instantly dismiss suggestions that she impose martial law or other forms of emergency rule and cited her vow to uphold democracy.

Bill Proposed in Congress

*HK120527 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
0500 GMT 12 Feb 88*

[Text] Martial law could be declared in certain areas of the country if congress approves a proposed bill which is to be submitted soon. This was stated by Chairman Rodrigo Gutang of the House Committee on Public Order and Safety. During the Committee's meeting this morning, Gutang said that a limited form of martial rule, like that in Singapore, is greatly needed in this country in the face of the worsening insurgency.

Meanwhile, Human Rights Committee Chairperson Nikki Coseteng said that the concept of command responsibility should be instilled among the military in view of reported abuses toward captured rebels.

Violations of Prisoners Rights Acknowledged
*HK121300 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
in English 12 Feb 88 pp 1, 10*

[Text] Brig. Gen Honesto Isleta yesterday acknowledged before a House subcommittee that the military violated the rights of 23 suspected communist rebels arrested recently, even as doctors certified that four suspects were tortured.

"Three suspects were served with arrest warrants while 23 others were apprehended on the basis of a citizen's arrest," Isleta told the House subcommittee on the promotion and protection of human rights.

Isleta also said that although the suspects were told they could avail themselves of lawyers' services during tactical interrogation, "they were not able to have their counsels."

Lawyers present at the hearing said citizen's arrest are only made against persons about to commit or in the act of committing a crime.

The Medical Action Group Inc. (MAG), a cause-oriented group of medical practitioners, told the subcommittee that four of the 15 suspects now detained at Camp Bago Bantay had been tortured.

MAG Doctor Percival Macasiar said suspect Randolph Cortez bore third degree burns on his genitals, which Cortez claims resulted from electric shock applied by his interrogators.

Macasiar said suspects Paterno Ruiz, Nicolas Ruiz, and Rustico Tan all suffered various pains resulting from torture during tactical interrogation. Tan, who was an NDF-Cebu negotiator during last year's failed peace talks, suffers from an upper respiratory tract infection, which he claims resulted from his interrogators' fist blows.

"These military men should be made answerable to these violations," Rep. Venancio Garduce (Pnb [Partido ng Bayan-People's Party]-Samar) told reporters after the hearing at which the suspects' lawyers and military officials testified.

Meanwhile, relatives of three suspected rebels arrested by Capcom [Capital Regional Command] soldiers Feb 1 at a Quezon City hospital have written to seek the help of the House of Representatives.

Rep. Oscar Rodriguez, (PDP-Laban [Pilipino Democratic Party-Lakas Ng Bayan—Strength of the Nation]-Tarlac) said relatives of Rolando Dural, Roberto Umil, and Renato Villanueva fear that the three might have been tortured or killed.

Three Communists Charged With Subversion
*HK111133 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English
10 Feb 88 pp 1, 14*

[By Ben Rosario]

[Text] Another group of suspected leaders of the outlawed Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) was charged last Monday before the Quezon City [QC] fiscal's office for alleged involvement in the underground communist movement.

The new group included a former Catholic priest, a doctor, and a nurse, military authorities said yesterday.

Six other suspected CPP members were charged last Friday with illegal possession of firearms and ammunition and violation of Republic Act (RA) 1700, which bans membership in a subversive organization.

Charged before QC Assistant Fiscal Conrado Refuerzo and Myrna Dimaranan Vidal last Monday afternoon were Rustico Tan, a former Catholic priest, alias "Ka [Comrade] Eddie;" Dr. Leny Galitia, and Reclinda Reyes, alias "Ka Pat."

Tan, a former member of the Divine Word Society (SVD), was nabbed by military intelligence agents while he was reportedly acting suspiciously when soldiers raided an alleged communist hideout in San Francisco del Monte in QC early this month.

He yielded subversive documents, 10 rounds of .45 caliber pistol bullets, and forged driver's license and voter's ID, probers said.

Vidal recommended no bail for Tan on the charge of illegal possession of ammunition, but granted a P60,000 bail for the alleged violation of RA 1700.

On the other hand, Refuerzo set a bail of P140,000 for Galitia who was charged with illegal possession of ammunition and a P6,000 bail for Reyes, who was charged with violation of RA 1700.

Refuerzo said military probers presented 34 rounds of Armalite bullets and a magazine as their evidence against Galitia.

Galitia was arrested when lawmen raided a suspected rebel hospital in her residence at 263-C Ermin Garcia St., barangay Silangan, Cubao, QC.

Reyes, who was taken into military custody before Galitia's arrest last Feb. 1, reportedly underwent training as a nurse for communist rebels as shown by a diploma from the "Bagong Hukbong Bayan," or the New People's Army (NPA).

Another suspected communist rebel, identified as Sheryl Obed, reportedly turned state witness and will testify on the membership of Galitia and Reyes with the CPP.

The three suspected members of the communist movement are among the more than 20 persons arrested by the military during a series of raids on suspected rebel safehouses in Metro Manila and Laguna early this month.

Six of those arrested and already charged before the QC fiscal's office were Fr. Nicanor Ruiz, Tomas Dominado Jr., Noli G. Narca, Paterna Ruiz, Lydia Narca, and Randolph Contesa, all believed to be CPP-NPA members.

Communist Rift May Have Led to Rebel Arrests
HK111111 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
in English 11 Feb 88 pp 1, 9

[By D. Veridiano]

[Text] An ongoing power struggle among leaders of the outlawed Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] may have led to the 1986 capture of Rodolfo "Kumander [Commander] Bilog" Salas, allegedly the former CPP chairman, and the arrest recently of 20 top ranking rebel leaders, a senior intelligence officer said.

"Captured subversive documents show that one of the rebels arrested last week was suspected by Salas himself as the traitor," the officer, who requested anonymity, said.

The officer showed the INQUIRER a copy of a Salas' letter accusing a certain "Tomas" of the CPP's executive committee of having tipped off military authorities of Salas' presence inside the Philippine General Hospital compound on Sept. 29, 1986.

The letter was allegedly written by Salas inside his Camp Crame detention cell and sent to "Kasamang [Ka—Comrade] Siling" who was later identified as Juanito Rivera, the alleged CPP vice chairman. Salas' letter was among the documents reportedly seized when Rivera was captured in his mother's house in Tarlac last Nov. 15, while recuperating from broncho-pneumonia, the source said.

"Tomas," intelligence analysts claimed, is the alias of Tomas Dominado Jr., the highest ranking of the 20 rebel leaders captured during the military's three-day operations in Metro Manila last week. Five of the alleged rebels have been released for lack of evidence. The others were charged with rebellion and other related crimes.

Dominado had a P80,000 price on his head. He was the first to charge that they were tortured by their military captors.

The source said the power struggle within the CPP started about three years ago when some of the leaders decided to hold a plenum to discuss the possible replacement of "old party leaders" with a new batch of "rabid ideologues" or more aggressive revolutionary militarists who had successfully led the communist insurgency in Southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

Salas himself acknowledged the existence of the conflict in his letter sent to Rivera dated May 1, 1987. The letter's introduction said, "Matagal na Kitang gustong kontakin, kaya lang naniniguro ako sa mga linyang dadaanan lalo na sa ngayong maselan ang panahon at may kaguluhan sa hanay ng kilusan [I have wanted to

contact you for a long time now, but I had to be sure of the lines of communications, particularly with the serious situation today and the confusion in the ranks of the moment]."

In its second paragraph, Salas said; "May duda akong may kasama sa sentro (higher organs of the CPP) na nag-tip sa amin [I have suspicions that someone in the center gave us away]."

The succeeding paragraphs identified the object of suspicion. "Ang unang suspect ay si Ka Tomas. Kahit wala pa akong ebidensya, siya ang lumalabas na may kagagawan [My first suspect is Comrade Tomas. While I still have no evidence, he appears to be the culprit]."

Salas said Ka Tomas was the only one among the rebel leaders who knew about Salas' plan to undergo a medical checkup at the PGH [Philippines General Hospital] on Taft Ave., Manila.

The alleged letter also revealed that Salas was not recognized by those who arrested him.

"Nang madakip kami, hindi ako kilala ng arresting team. Ang alam nila ay ang sasakyan namin, ang oras ng pagdating namin sa PGH, na operahan ako at dalawa lang ang kasama kong pupunta doon. Hindi ako ang nasa litrato na ipinakita nila, [When we were arrested, the arresting team did not recognize me. All they knew were our vehicle, the time of our arrival at the PGH, that I was to be operated on, and that I had only two companions. I was not in the picture shown them.]" the letter said.

The intelligence men were reportedly tipped off by an unidentified caller a day before his scheduled medical checkup, Salas claimed in the alleged letter.

The military earlier claimed Salas' arrest was the "product of more than two months of intelligence operations."

The source also said the intelligence operatives who launched the recent operations against the rebels got a very accurate information on the exact location of the insurgents' safehouses.

"The operatives stayed inside the house (safehouses), and after waiting for few hours, started nabbing one after the other the arriving suspected rebel leaders," the officer said.

NDF Guerrillas Enforce Agrarian Reform
HK121325 Hong Kong AFP in English 1254 GMT
12 Feb 88

[By Cecilia Quiambao]

[Text] Bongabon, Philippines, Feb 12 (AFP)—Communist guerrillas here claim to be carrying out their own agrarian reform program while the Philippine government debates how to carve up the country's vast agricultural estates.

Spokesmen for the communist insurgent National Democratic Front (NDF) near this rice-producing town said they had already implemented "revolutionary" land reform to "grab the political and economic power from landlords."

About a dozen guerrillas of the New People's Army (NPA) met with Manila journalists in a mountain village on the outskirts of Bongabon Thursday, four days after the deadline lapsed for landlords nationwide to register their holdings for reform.

President Corazon Aquino said, after an estimated 60 to 70 per cent of landowners beat the deadline, that those who failed to register would have their farms bought by the state at below market rates.

Mrs. Aquino proclaimed the entire Philippines under land reform six months ago and registered her family's 6,100-hectare (15,000-acre) sugar estate, but her program has been bogged down in Congress by a landlord bloc.

"Our revolutionary agrarian reform program is not merely intended to address the issue of landlessness of peasants, but to overhaul the entire agricultural system which perpetuates oppression," NDF spokesman Domingo Arboleda said.

The guerrillas lectured a group of newsmen gathered in a thatch hut, saying it was "impossible" for the Aquino government to implement a pro-peasant agrarian reform program since any such legislation would only be used "as a tool to quell the insurgency."

"Any such agrarian reform program will only be used as a tool of the low-intensity conflict counter-insurgency strategy of the U.S. and not to solve the centuries-old agrarian problem," the NDF spokesman added.

With their M-16 assault rifles and Uzi sub-machine guns close at hand, the guerrillas stressed the importance of the NPA in implementing the revolutionary agrarian reform program since "landlords will not voluntarily give up their lands" and "peasants alone do not have the guts to confiscate lands."

Mr. Arboleda said that NPA guerrillas here killed a landlord in December who had refused to heed the "demands of the revolutionary movement." He did not elaborate.

Much of the confiscated lands were individually distributed to tenants, who in turn were charged "revolutionary agrarian reform tax," ranging from one per cent to four per cent of their total net income, he added, without giving any figures.

However, the guerrillas said they encouraged cooperative farming among the beneficiaries of the revolutionary agrarian reform, but added that there is still a need to "educate" them to accept such an arrangement.

Aquino 'Brushes Off' Latest NPA Threat
HK111309 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
1000 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] President Aquino has brushed off the NPA threat that was disclosed yesterday by the Armed Forces. The president said there is nothing new in the NPA strategy of listing their assassination targets. The chief executive, however, condemned all human rights violations. She stressed that a government employee fulfilling his tasks has the right to be respected by others. She was referring to the killing of Esteban Kalalang, an arbiter of the Labor Relations Commission, by suspected communist rebels. The president said she personally condoles with Kalalang's family, and added that human rights pertain to everyone.

1987 Amnesty Yields 9,000 Rebel Returnees
HK121006 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
0600 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] The government's amnesty program last year convinced some 9,000 communist rebels to return to the fold of the law.

According to the Regular Reconciliation and Development Council, the majority of the returnees were assigned to several cooperative centers in Iloilo. The returnees included 341 regular NPA members, 2,584 from subversive groups, and the remainder were sympathizers.

Aquino Nominates Muslim Comelec Commissioner
HK101045 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE
in English 10 Feb 88 pp 1, 6

[Text] President Aquino endorsed yesterday to the Commission on Appointments (CA) the nomination of Magdara Dimaampao as commissioner of the Commission on Elections to represent the Muslim sector.

In a letter dated February 8 but received by the Senate only yesterday, Mrs. Aquino nominated Dimaampao for a term of seven years.

Dimaampao, 55 years-old, graduated from the University of Manila in 1960 with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. He was a municipal judge of Taraka and Tapanan, Lanao del Sur, and a city judge of Marawi city. He was a minister counsellor in the Department of Foreign Affairs from March 21, 1978 to April 4, 1986.

Meanwhile, the CA is expected to confirm today the nominations of Haydee Yorac and Andres Flores as Comelec commissioners, after the committee on constitutional commissions and offices gave its favorable recommendation yesterday.

Yorac was unanimously endorsed by the nine-man committee headed by Sen. Edgardo J. Angara, while two abstained—Senator Ernesto M. Maceda and Minority Leader Juan Ponce Enrile—in the case of Flores. There were no objections after two consecutive hearings.

The committee also started deliberating yesterday on the nominations of Hilario Davide Jr. as Comelec chairman, and Leopoldo Africa and Dario Rama as commissioners. The deliberations will be resumed tomorrow to give way for today's regular session.

Angara told newsmen that if a Muslim is nominated by Malacanang to fill up the seventh and last remaining slot in the seven-man Comelec in time for the CA's session today, such nomination may be confirmed to enable the poll body to have a quorum of four for normal Comelec operations, assuming that Yorac and Flores would also get the nod of the CA.

Angara and the CA members—including Senators Enrile, Maceda, John H. Osmena and Leticia R. Shahani, and Reps. Miguel Romero (Lakas [Lakas ng Bansa—Power of the Nation], Negros Oriental), Natalio Beltran Jr., Jose Cabochan (PDP-Laban [Pilipino Democratic Party-Lakas ng Bayan—Strength of the Nation], Bulacan), Lorna Verano Yap (Lakas, Pasay city) and Speaker Protempore Antonio V. Cuenco—took turns in questioning the presidential nominees.

Yorac and Flores agreed with the observations of the CA members that the Comelec must have an official with managerial or administrative skill to help streamline the poll body.

On complaints that the Comelec made flip-flopping decisions, Yorac asserted that she had never changed her vote in cases elevated for reconsideration.

Yorac and Flores said they were also for early holding of the local polls in August or November last year, in reaction to Maceda's observation that there was suspicion that the elections were held last January 18 to favor the reappointment of Comelec commissioners whose terms of office expired last February 2. Yorac, Flores, Africa and Rama were all former Comelec commissioners.

In the same hearing, Davide admitted that he was active in politics, especially in his home province, Cebu, having been a member of the 1971 Constitutional Convention and the 1978 interim Batasan. He was also appointed members of the 1986 constitutional commission.

But Davide said the moment a public official is appointed to an independent body like the Comelec, he must always bear in mind that a public office is a public trust, and must at all times be accountable to the people.

He said once confirmed as Comelec chairman, he would work hard to maintain the independence of the poll body.

Davide also said he has not approached any CA member after his nomination by the President. He admitted, however, that he met Congressman Romero last week. He also denied he was in the house of Rep. Jose Cojuangco, the President's brother, with nine other people last Wednesday night.

To Name Autonomy Panel

HK121305 *Quezon City MALAYA in English*
12 Feb 88 p 6

[Text] President Aquino will name Friday next week the 27 district representatives and as many as 24 members-at-large of the Mindanao regional consultative commission that will work with Congress for the creation of an autonomous Mindanao region.

As this developed, an official of the government peace commission said membership in the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) of the secessionist Moro National Liberation Front will only "exacerbate" the Mindanao problem.

In a press briefing, Deputy Peace Commissioner Noel Tolentino said the propaganda issues being raised by the MNLF in its membership bid only "muddles" the real issue of genuine autonomy for the region.

"In a way, it is meant to derail the present efforts of the government to implement autonomy in accordance with constitutional processes," he said.

The 47-member OIC will discuss the application for full membership of the MNLF during a ministerial meeting in Jordan next month.

"With the kind of articulation being made by some MNLF leaders, they are in fact standing in the way of the fulfillment of the Muslim Filipinos' aspirations for genuine autonomy," Tolentino said.

He however, commended the MNLF and other dissident groups in the region for abiding by their promise not to resume hostilities in Mindanao.

Mrs Aquino will make the announcement on Feb. 19 in Zamboanga City at the same time that she launches special action programs for Mindanao.

The Mindanao regional consultative commission will convene on March 7, also in Zamboanga City.

The 27 district representatives will be chosen from among 70 nominees recommended in multi-sectoral dialogs and the members-at-large from 26 more nominees.

Tolentino blamed the delay in the selection of RCC members to "traditional political interference." He said multi-sectoral assemblies in 16 districts where the selection process was deemed "democratically deficient" because of the meddling of some congressmen had to be reconvened to ensure the integrity of the selection.

Meanwhile, the military yesterday said it is closely monitoring "unusual movements" of Muslim separatist rebels that may indicate renewed hostilities in the South. Armed Forces spokesman Col Oscar M. Florendo said field reports showed Moro National Liberation Front rebels have left their old lairs, moving to new strategic positions, including non-Muslim areas, in full combat gear.

Military Monitors MNLF Movements to Cities

HK120523 *Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog*
0400 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Military commanders in Mindanao have been reporting the movement of Muslim rebels toward the cities. Field commanders have confirmed that 400 armed members of the MNLF were monitored as moving toward Lanao and Bukidnon Provinces as well as the cities of Zamboanga, Davao, Marawi and Iligan.

In this connection, the Organization of Islamic Conference is scheduled to meet next month to discuss the MNLF's request to become a member.

Montano Starts Reshuffle of PC Commanders

HK121101 *Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English*
12 Feb 88 pp 1, 12

[By Owen Masaganda]

[Text] Lucena City—Maj. Gen. Ramon Montano, PC-INP chief, started yesterday a reshuffle of PC regional commanders with the reassignment of Brig. Gen. Eduardo A. Taturan to Region 5 covering Bicol provinces.

Brig. Gen. Luis San Andres, who replaced Taturan on June 16, 1987, was named deputy chief of Constabulary. San Andres is due to retire next April.

General Montano arrived here the other day and met with officers and men of Southern Tagalog regional command headed by Col. Evaristo G. Carino.

The PC chief said that the reshuffle of PC-INP regional commanders will be completed in April after most of the officers will have retired. He told media men that provincial and company commanders will be affected by the revamp.

Last Feb. 5, Montano installed Brig. Gen. Pedro Sistosa as Recom [Regional Command] 2 PC-INP chief, replacing Brig. Gen. Jose Hidalgo, who retired. There are 10 retirable officers holding key positions in the PC. The officers include Gen. Renato S. de Villa, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff. De Villa is supposed to retire in April together with the other members of Philippine Military Academy (PMA) class '57. His tour of duty will be extended for three years as mandated by the Constitution.

Among the officers who will retire by April are Brigadier Generals Jesus dea Cruz, chief of Recom 1; Domingo Rio, chief of Recom 6; Lorenzo Rapanan, chief of Recom 9; Jesus Altuna, chief of Recom 10; Romeo Rizena, chief of Recom 11; Fidel Singson, deputy chief of Constabulary; Dionesio Tan-Gatue, CMO [expansion unknown]; and Jesus Hermosa, chief of Recom 12. Hermosa will retire in December.

There are 41 generals who will retire in April. Most of them are with the Philippine Army, Air Force, and Navy and members of the PMA class '57. These include Maj. Gen. Restituto C. Padilla, Army chief; and Brig. Gen. Antonio Samonte, Solcom [Southern Regional Command] chief.

House Resolution Cites New Uses for Bases
HK110949 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English
11 Feb 88 p 12

[Text] Following the House defense committee's approval of a bill calling for a referendum to determine the future of U.S. military bases in the country, a resolution was filed yesterday requesting the President and the foreign affairs secretary to fix a \$1.2-billion yearly compensation package for the bases should the people approve their continued presence.

House Resolution No. 575, authored by Rep. Jose de Venecia of Pangasinan, also seeks to set a "contingency program" on alternative uses of the bases to be supported by the national budget.

Rep. de Venecia said the present \$180-million-a-year compensation package is "inadequate" and "woefully disproportionate" to the bases' importance to the U.S.

He stressed that the proposed new amount would not come from the U.S. alone. He said \$600 million would come from the U.S., \$300 million from Japan, and \$300 million from Middle East countries.

"The mounting U.S. trade deficit poses a constraint to increase America's compensation commitment to her bases. The U.S. can lead the Philippines (instead) in securing financial support from Japanese and Middle East, which share strategic and economic interests in the bases," he explained.

The solon noted that the neighboring countries have shown "disinclination" to share political responsibility and financial burden as a result of the "regional security vouchsafed by U.S. military presence in the country."

He said Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base are "forward bases" which secure the "lifelines" of Japan and the Arab countries in the Persian Gulf.

In case the people, in a referendum, reject the continued presence of the U.S. facilities, the congressman proposed alternative uses for both the Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base.

He said Government can transfer the Ninoy Aquino International Airport [NAIA] and four military camps to the 10,000 hectare Clark Air Base and sell the erstwhile NAIA lot to the private sector. Government is estimated to earn P25 billion from the sale "which could be used for the economic development program."

Rep. de Venecia said whatever remaining unutilized land at Clark Air Base (after the transfer of the airport and the military camps) could be apportioned to peasants and New People's Army surrenderers "to solve the insurgency problem."

With regards to the Subic Naval Base, he said this could be converted into, among others, an international ship repair facility, ship refuelling station for all flags, an export processing zone, an industrial park, a free port or serve as a Philippine naval base or any variation or combination thereof.

Meanwhile, Rep. Vicente de la Serna of Cebu yesterday alleged there was intention on the part of the military to "withhold information" on the alleged U.S. involvement in the Aug. 28 mutiny.

House Invites U.S. Embassy Officials To Testify
HK111109 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
in English 11 Feb 88 p 3

[By Luis Logarta]

[Text] The House of Representatives is inching closer toward a showdown with the U.S. Government over the reported presence of nuclear weapons at Clark air base and Subic naval station.

Rep. Vicente de la Serna (PDP-Laban [Pilipino Democratic Party-Lakas ng Bayan—Strength of the Nation], Cebu), chairman of the House subcommittee on international affairs, said yesterday Congress is "reinviting" U.S. Embassy officials in Manila to shed light on whether Americans are keeping a nuclear weapons arsenal inside the bases.

"We have tried asking officials of the U.S. Embassy political affairs department to testify before our committee but they have steadfastly refused our invitations,

claiming diplomatic immunity," de la Serna told Rachel Capili of the U.S. Embassy political affairs division, who sat in as an observer during the subcommittee's public hearing.

Capili told de la Serna she would relay the subcommittee's sentiments to her superiors but added she could not assure them of a favorable response.

Assistant Majority Floorleader Victorico Chaves (PDP-Laban, Misamis Oriental) said U.S. officials should cooperate with the congressional investigating body, which is going to make recommendations to the Philippine panel that will renegotiate the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement this year. The agreement expires 1992.

"Should they pass up again our invitation, it will only mean the U.S. officials are admitting by implication there are indeed nuclear weapons on Philippine soil," Chaves said.

Rep. Florencio Abad (LP, Batanes), a leading member of the progressive bloc of congressmen, told reporters there is a very strong possibility the U.S. maintains nuclear arms in their bases here.

Abad cited a testimony of retired Rear Admiral Gene Larocque, former commander of the U.S. Seventh Fleet in the Pacific, before the U.S. house foreign affairs committee in Washington D.C.

Abad said Larocque had admitted that "roughly three quarters of U.S. Navy combat ships regularly carry nuclear weapons. The ships and submarines of the Seventh Fleet frequently call up Subic, including an aircraft carrier loaded down with nuclear capable aircraft. It is extremely unlikely that nuclear weapons are offloaded before entering the Philippines."

Summons De Villa on Issue

HK110957 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English
11 Feb 88 p 12

[Text] The House subcommittee on international affairs will summon Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Renato de Villa, concurrent base commander of Subic Naval Base, to appear before the subcommittee to confirm or deny the presence of missiles and nuclear warheads in the bases.

Gen. de Villa's deputy base commanders, Generals Arternio Tadiar and Cesar Go will also be invited. Rep. Victorico Chaves of Misamis Oriental, House national defense committee vice-chairman, said they will also call representatives of the U.S. Embassy, "especially from the political section," to confirm or deny the existence of the nuclear armaments in the American military facilities here.

If the U.S. officials neither confirm nor deny that there are nuclear warheads in the military facilities, "then they are confirming (it) by implication," he said.

The decision to summon Messrs. de Villa, Tadiar, and Go was arrived at following the testimony of AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] deputy chief of staff for planning Brig. Gen. Arturo Castro that the Filipino base commander is in the best position to know if there are missile silos or nuclear warheads in the U.S. bases. He said the base commander can go around the bases except the so-called "cryptographic areas" where classified information is being processed.

Mr. Castro also confirmed the report of Rep. Oscar Rodriguez of Pampanga that U.S. military installations, "consisting of four major American bases and 17 obscure bases," occupy a total land area of 240,000 hectares.

He qualified, however, that the area has been "greatly" reduced, saying that a lot of these areas are now under Philippine jurisdiction. He then suggested that the country fight for a "better treatment" in the coming bases review.

In an interview with newsmen, Rep. Florencio Abad of Batanes, one of the subcommittee members, said there are 24 P-SC anti-submarine warplanes based in Cubi point at Subic, each carrying around four to eight nuclear depth bombs. He argued that this is an indication that nuclear weapons do exist in the country.

The solon was referring to a report of the Swedish-based Peace Research Institute, which claimed that Soviet nuclear missiles are aimed at the Philippines not only because of weapons in the U.S. bases but also because of the "nuclear functions performed by these bases."

The lawmaker noted that this report will give substance to the committee's perception that nuclear weapons are indeed in the country. He said the nuclear-free provision in the Constitution would be "in vain" if Filipinos will not be allowed to check the presence of nuclear weapons.

Mr. Abad argued that the Americans are "hiding" behind one of the provisions of the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. bases agreement which allows the U.S. "unhampered use of the bases."

When asked on President Aquino's earlier statement that foreign intervention is fine if it does the country good, he replied, "I don't agree with intervention. Whether good or bad, it is an invasion to our sovereignty."

He said the people should be made aware of the issue on sovereignty, as he told newsmen the subcommittee approved a House bill calling for a referendum to decide on the future of the U.S. bases.

Labor Demands Representation in Bases Talks
HK121217 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English
12 Feb 88 p 1

[Text] The Trade Union Congress of the Philippines [TUCP] will spearhead the launching of massive concerted actions to demand for labor's representation in the U.S. military bases talks scheduled in April.

Likewise, it is urging the government to call a plebiscite to determine the fate of the bases.

In a press conference yesterday, TUCP president Democrite Mondoza said the bases/labor provision should be on the agenda of negotiations and a labor representative should be appointed a member of the Philippine panel.

With a total of 45,835 Filipino workers employed in the Subic and Clark bases and several thousands in other U.S. facilities in the country, these civilian workers...whose livelihood is dependent on the continued operation of the bases...should be accorded equal rights as the American civilian employees," Mr. Mendoza said.

Mr Mendoza clarified that even as it calls for a plebiscite on the bases issue, TUCP favors a "modified" retention of these bases subject to these conditions:

- Increased economic and military "rental package" to be paid annually in fixed amount;
- U.S. recognition of Philippine sovereignty over the territory occupied by the bases, and
- Offenses committed by U.S. nationals in the bases against Filipino should be tried by Philippine courts. Under existing laws, American military personnel are tried in U.S. courts.

Likewise, Mr. Mendoza proposed that the negotiations for such a treaty should not exceed five years "during which time the American complement in the said U.S. bases will be reduced yearly by 20 per cent until such time that a treaty is ratified by both countries.

He added that any new treaty should have an effectivity period of not more than 10 years.

Explaining the rationale for its position to retain the U.S. bases, Mr. Mendoza said their presence constitute the "most important deterrent" to Soviet hegemonist policy in Asia "which has become more apparent and alarming with the build-up of Soviet forces in Cam Ranh Bay and Soviet support for local communist insurgents."

Moreover, the continued presence of these bases infuses P7.14 billion to the Philippine economy yearly. This amount is broken down to P1.42 billion in Filipino workers salaries; P2.04 billion in U.S. servicemen's expenditures; P500 million in military construction; P1.8 billion in local procurement; and P1.38 billion representing the checks issued to dependents and retired servicemen.

PRC Seeks Modification of Cash Bond Rule
HK111153 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
in English 11 Feb 88 p 9

[By C. Florentino]

[Text] Negotiations between the Philippines and China have reached an impasse over the immigration policy requiring visiting Chinese nationals to post cash bonds.

Chinese Embassy officials are studying modifications to the original policy but said they would "oppose anything discriminatory" against its nationals.

Chinese Ambassador Chen Songlu earlier preconditioned negotiations on the cancellation of a P100,000-cash bond for incoming Chinese nationals aimed at controlling a wave of overstaying Chinese visitors in the country.

Immigration chief Miriam Defensor-Santiago later required posting of the bond from other national with overstaying or illegal populations of 10,000 in the country.

Santiago raised the original P100,000-cash bond to P200,000.

While the policy covers all foreigners, it mostly affects the Chinese, who comprise the "majority" of about 50 nationalities with illegal aliens in the country.

Chinese Embassy First Secretary Xu Xinxi said the original policy was discriminatory because it appeared to "single out" the Chinese.

But Santiago said illegal aliens are running criminal syndicates here including prostitution and white slavery, gun-running, sabotage, dope-pushing, and falsification of travel documents.

Santiago said some illegal aliens are believed to be involved in espionage for their governments, according to reports from the National Intelligence and Coordinating Agency.

Diplomatic Rift Feared
HK121305 Manila MANILA STANDARD in English
12 Feb 88 p 2

[By Alito L. Malinao]

[Text] A diplomatic rift between the Philippines and the People's Republic of China (PROC) is feared over the decision Tuesday of the Commission on Immigration and Deportation (CID) to increase the cash bond ruling for Chinese nationals visiting the country.

Diplomatic analysis yesterday said the CID decision was ill advised because this might imperil the state visit this year of President Aquino to Beijing.

CID Commissioner Miriam Defensor-Santiago has said that the government is modifying the bond ruling from the present P100,000 per Chinese national. She said that the cash bond will now be computed at the rate of P200,000 for every 10,000 illegal aliens.

The analysts said this ruling is clearly aimed at the Chinese nationals, both from Taiwan and the mainland, because they comprise the bulk of overstaying aliens in the country.

But Xu Xinxi, first secretary of the Chinese Embassy in Manila, told the STANDARD that they hope the problem will be solved through negotiations.

Xu refused to reveal what moves the Chinese Government will take, but he said that the position of the Chinese Government on the previous ruling has not changed.

He said that the original bond ruling was discriminatory because it was imposed on them unilaterally at a time when the two governments were about to talk on the problem of overstaying Chinese nationals in the country.

Xu said that the Chinese government has made representations with the Philippine Government and "demanded that the bond be cancelled."

Asked what will be the possible reaction of the Chinese Government now that the bond is upped instead of being lifted, Xu said they are studying the matter and the Chinese Embassy would soon issue a statement.

The original bond ruling was issued in early December last year to curb the increasing number of overstaying Chinese nationals. The Department of Foreign Affairs said that the move was recommended by the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency (NICA).

The CID said that the number of illegally overstaying aliens in the country could reach P300,000, and about 50,000 to 100,000 of these are Chinese.

The Chinese Government has earlier said that it will not sit down with Filipino officials unless the bond is first lifted.

Last month, some Chinese officials from Beijing were scheduled to come to Manila for talks on the problem of the overstaying Chinese but the trip was cancelled after there was no indication that the Philippine Government would scrap the bond.

Taiwan Dissident Stopped From Returning Home
HK111325 Hong Kong AFP in English 1306 GMT
11 Feb 88

[Text] Manila, Feb 11 (AFP)—Immigration officials Thursday detained Taiwan dissident Hsu Hsian-liang here as he attempted to return to Taipei with a forged passport, officials said.

Immigration agents alleged that Mr. Hsu, who has been on the Philippines' watch-list since October 1986, was caught carrying a Philippine passport in the name of William Leonardo while on a stopover on flight from the United States to Taiwan.

When they informed Taiwan Government representatives here of Mr. Hsu's presence, they were told that Taiwan would refuse to admit him, the agents told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

Mr. Hsu, who was held at the immigration office, told AFP he was willing to be imprisoned here in hopes that people backing him in Taiwan would put pressure on the government "to allow me to come back, even to face trial."

Mr. Hsu, who went into exile in the United States in 1979, was making his third attempt to return to Taiwan. Earlier bids failed in 1986 and last year.

He said he told Philippine immigration officials to "either send me back to Taiwan or put me in jail here."

Immigration Commission official Orlando Dizon said they were "at a loss", since Taiwan would not accept Mr. Hsu while at the same time he had no travel documents to return to the United States.

Mr. Hsu said that he wanted to return to Taiwan to press for changes in elections both to the Taiwan congress and the Taiwan presidency.

He charged that despite the change in leadership after the death of President Chiang Ching-kuo on January 13, Taiwan was becoming more "repressive and reactionary."

Refuses To Post Bail

HK120947 Hong Kong AFP in English 0909 GMT
12 Feb 87

[Text] Manila, Feb 12 (AFP)—Taiwan dissident Hsu Hsin-Liang remained in detention here Friday after he refused to post bail, leaving the Philippine Government in a quandary, local immigration authorities said.

Mr. Hsu was detained at Manila International Airport on Thursday after he tried to leave for Taiwan on a false Philippine passport.

Immigration commission spokeswoman Gene Matias said Mr. Hsu could not be sent to Taiwan because the government refuses to admit him.

But he could not be sent to the United States either because he only has refugee status there, she said.

"We don't know what to do. The case is still under study," she said.

Mr. Hsu, who arrived from the United States and was caught before boarding a flight to Taiwan, had also refused an offer to be freed into the custody of his Filipino lawyer, Miss Matias added.

The Taiwan-born opposition leader has said he would prefer to remain in detention in Manila in hopes that his supporters in Taiwan will pressure the government into allowing him to return.

Mr. Hsu was making his third attempt to return to Taiwan after previous attempts were foiled in 1986 and 1987.

\$700 Million From Japanese Fund Sought
HK101103 Manila BUSINESS STAR in English
10 Feb 88 p 24

[Text] The Philippines has raised to \$700 million from \$450 million the amount of loans it will seek to obtain from the ASEAN-Japan Development Fund (AJDF), which will make more money available for local industries and investments in the next three years.

According to Tomas Alcantara, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) undersecretary, the country originally wanted to avail of \$450 million over the next two years from the \$2-billion AJDF provided by the Japanese government to ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) member-nations.

The government has recently decided, however, to "upgrade" its target to \$700, with the additional \$250 million slated for the third year of the AJDF.

The fund seeks to provide concessional loans to member countries who will, in turn, lend it to private companies at how rates through the commercial banking system. The entire amount, stressed Alcantara, will be used to meet the requirements of the private sector.

Alcantara said the \$700-million worth of loans is expected to result in P21 billion worth of projects for the next three years, a powerful push for the Philippine economy, which is expected to grow through investments.

The amount also represents more than a 70-percent increase from the P13.5-billion worth of projects that can be generated from the original \$450-million target.

Alcantara pointed out that a problem likely to emerge is whether or not the private sector can absorb such a large amount of money.

"Over a three-year period, the Philippines may not be able to fully absorb that much money," he said.

He said the government has already asked the commercial banks to scan their lists of clients and loan requests "so that we can estimate early the magnitude of the projects."

Yen Appreciation [subhead]

Observers also noted that another problem that may surface later on is the amount of money the country will repay the Japanese Government. Even if interest rates are low, the Central Bank, which will absorb all the foreign exchange risks, may pay increasingly larger amounts because of the yen's appreciation against the dollar.

Aside from the commercial banks, Alcantara said the government is also considering using other channels for the funds like private development banks, thrift banks, and leasing companies.

Companies qualified to avail of the loans fall under two categories. The first covers companies that will undergo rehabilitation and modernization, especially those in the food processing, textile, forest-based and cement industries.

The second includes export-oriented companies in the food-processing, electronics, automotive, and ceramic industries.

The final terms of the agreement will be ironed out in Kuala Lumpur on March 4 when Japanese AJDF officials meet with representatives of ASEAN member-nations.

Alcantara said what will be discussed is "a fine-tuning" of formerly agreed upon terms and conditions. There is already the basic agreement that the money will be lent out to the Philippines and other ASEAN governments at 2.5-percent interest rate over a 30-year repayment period, with a four-year grace period.

The Philippines, in turn, will channel the funds through commercial banks which will lend them out at 15-percent interest over a 15-year repayment period with three-to five-year grace period, depending on the need of the borrowing company.

The only issue still to be firmed up is the disbursement procedure for the loans which can be released on a project basis, program basis, or in branches.

Thailand

More Attacks Reported in Lao Border Conflict

Lao Troops Said To Attack Village
BK120145 Bangkok THE NATION in English
12 Feb 88 pp 1, 2

[Text] Ubon Ratchathani—About 30 Laotian troops intruded into a border village in Khong Chiam District and clashed with Thai officials Wednesday. A Laotian was reported killed.

Local policemen and fully-armed soldiers from the 16th Infantry Battalion were deployed at the clash site near Thung Na Muang Village yesterday to prevent further invasion.

There were also reports of sporadic Laotian gunfire and light aircraft patrols yesterday.

Pol [police] Lt Col Phen Katthanyakit, chief of Khong Chiam police station, said the Laotians crossed the Mekong River from Sing Samphan Village in Laos Wednesday to seize Thai villagers' boats and fishing equipment.

The intruders, armed with assault rifles, opened fire at border patrol policemen who asked them to return the boats, he said. The shots missed their targets.

Pol Capt Kitcha Itsaranuwat, the police station's deputy chief of defence, said a Laotian soldier was seen killed in the shootout with Thai officials.

None of the Thais was injured, he said.

Phen said the invading troops crossed the river and returned to Laos after a brief crossfire with Thai officials.

Ubon Ratchathani Governor Danai Ketsiri and senior provincial officials at midday yesterday visited Thung Na Muang Village and nearby areas to learn of the situation.

Province authorities are not yet preparing to evacuate residents of the 100-home village.

Phen said Laotian troops sporadically fired shots and rocket-propelled grenades to Thai side yesterday but no one was wounded.

The Laotians also used a light aircraft to patrol over the disputed area, he said.

Kitcha said the spot where the Laotians crossed the Mekong River to Thailand is about one kilometre wide.

The troops crossed the border river easily because the water has been receding, he said.

Kitcha said an unknown number of Laotian soldiers also were seen staying on guard on hilly landscapes opposite Khong Chiam District after the clash.

Provincial officials yesterday reported the incident to the Interior Ministry.

Meanwhile, villagers in Bung Kan District of Nong Khai Province yesterday reported an intensifying logistic move along about 350 kilometres of Laotian borderline opposite the province.

Laotian troops have stationed artillery and tanks opposite Si Chiang Mai, Ban Mai, Phon Phisai and Phak Kat districts, they said.

Pol Maj Gen Phongthon Tantiwatthana, commander of police regional headquarters 6, yesterday instructed every police station near the Mekong River to build bunkers to prepare for possible Laotian attacks.

Jets, Artillery Strike Lao Positions
BK120141 Bangkok THE NATION in English
12 Feb 88 p 1

[Text] Phitsanulok—Thai jet fighter-bombers yesterday struck Laotian batteries near the disputed border area here, a senior army officer said.

The officer of the 3rd Army Region, who requested anonymity, told THE NATION two US-built F-5E jets of the air force flew three sorties near Romklao village of Chat Trakan District.

Casualty figures were not available, he said, adding that Laotian artillery pieces were believed to have been destroyed.

Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, army commander in chief, has said that Thai forces may consider crossing the border to attack Laotian troops from the rear.

Chawalit and about 20 senior army officers will observe the battle situation in the disputed area this afternoon.

Col Ritthi Rangkhaphuti, the regional army's spokesman, said Laotian gunners fired about 30 artillery shells into Thai territory near Phak stream in Chat Trakan.

The Laotian bombardment was aimed at two target areas, recaptured recently by Thai troops, he said, adding that Thai forces retaliated with artillery fire into Laos.

Laotian artillery also continued to pound Na Hao District in Loei, adjacent to the 75-square-kilometre disputed mountain terrain, claimed by Bangkok and Vientiane.

Thai and Laotian forces were engaged in an artillery and mortar duel for about an hour, and 27 Laotian shells crashed near the district town.

Lt Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi, commander of the 2nd Army Region, responsible for border defence in the Northeast, yesterday directed Thai gunners to retaliate against Laotian shelling.

Military sources said Thai artillery bombardment destroyed a bridge in the Laotian border area, but casualties were unknown.

Thai and Laotian forces Wednesday traded artillery and mortar fire in Na Haeo, where about 4,000 Thais live.

Laotian shelling wounded a Thai policeman and damaged a local post office and police living quarters in the district town, which has not been evacuated yet.

More than 300 villagers from Na Charoen and Napakham villages close to the embattled border in Na Haeo are taking refuge in Chat Trakan District following Laos' shelling.

Thai and Laotian troops have battled since November to control a rugged, remote hill in Phu Soi Dao mountain range.

Thai forces have recaptured several border hills from the Laotians, but the fighting continued on Hill 1428, said the sources.

In Bangkok, Permanent Secretary for Interior Phisan Munlasatathon said Laos has reinforced its positions along the border with fresh troops and artillery pieces.

Though Bangkok still maintains friendly relations with Vientiane, Thai forces along the entire border are on alert, said Phisan.

Laotian military movement was apparently reported along the Mekong River opposite Thailand's Nong Khai and Nakhon Phanom provinces, he said.

Thai-Laotian ties have been strained since Vietnam, Laos' closest ally, invaded Kampuchea in 1978.

Prem Replies to Kaysone Call for Talks
BK120821 Bangkok TNA in English 0810 GMT
12 Feb 88

[Text] Bangkok, Feb. 12 (OANA-TNA)—Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon replied to Lao's Premier Kaysone Phomviharn's letter late this morning but its content won't be revealed until the Laotian Government acknowledged its receipt.

The prime minister said to reporters at Government House at lunch-time that contrary to widely publicized news story, Kaysone's letter (?did not) propose an immediate ceasefire along the disputed Thai-Laos border but instead requested to send a delegation Bangkok for negotiation. He refused to disclose to reporters what he had said in reply to Kaysone's letter.

Secretary-general to the prime minister, Squadron-leader Prasong Sunsiri told reporters that the letter from Laos' premier had been delivered to the prime minister via the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Agrees To Receive Delegation
BK121350 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5
in Thai 1300 GMT 12 Feb 88

["Text" of Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon's reply message to LPDR Prime Minister Kaysone Phomviharn; read by government spokesman Sarot Chawana-wirat on 12 Feb—recorded]

[Text] 12 February 1988

To: His Excellency Kaysone Phomviharn

I received your telegram of 11 February expressing your desire to stop the needless loss of life by our two countries' peoples. This demonstrates your good intention.

Thai actions near Ban Romklao were necessary to safeguard national sovereignty. This sovereignty is based on treaties, documents, and maps that are correct according to widely accepted international law. Thailand's intention was not to kill the fraternal Lao people, had they not blatantly violated the legitimate rights of Thailand.

In a spirit between fraternal countries, I wish to inform your excellency of our readiness to receive your military delegation in Bangkok on Tuesday, 16 February 1988, to explore ways to reduce tension and to consult on the legal and moral foundations that will become the basis for future negotiations between our two countries.

Respectfully,

[Signed] General Prem Tinsulanon, prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand

Government Responds to UN Mediation Offer
BK120227 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
12 Feb 88 pp 1, 2

[Excerpts] Thailand has responded to an offer by United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to mediate in the Thai-Lao border dispute, saying the two nations can settle the conflict.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Sarot Chawanawirat said yesterday that the reply was made on Tuesday, the same day the UN secretary-general made the offer.

In the response, Thailand detailed the developments leading up to the border fighting, and said the Foreign Ministry had been keeping the United Nations regularly informed.

Mr Sarot said, however, that Thailand had hoped the UN would not raise the issue for consideration since it was a matter between the two countries.

"We will have to find a solution," he said, and both countries should be able to talk to one another.

Ministry sources said the Thai response mentioned Foreign Minister Sithi Sawetsila's invitation to Laotian Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut and that he had proposed three periods this month when he would be available for meetings.

The sources said a meeting may not be the same as coming to the negotiating table but at least it is one step towards a settlement.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister's Office Minister Arun Phnuphong said he did not think Thailand should negotiate with Laos if the Army had not yet pushed out Laotian troops.

"If we agree to negotiations, this means Thailand would be admitting that our claims to the Ban Romklao area are questionable," he said.

"Thailand cannot give its own territory away. This is not a negotiable issue and we must defend what is ours," said Mr Arun. [passage omitted]

Military sources said Thai troops are slowly advancing towards the remaining pockets of Laotian troops, but the going was slow and there had been a steady stream of casualties from booby traps.

Column Asks U.S. To Disavow 'Lousy Map'
BK120757 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai
11 Feb 88 p 8

[Son Thale Column: "Old Soldiers Never Die"]

[Excerpts] There is a Western saying: "Old soldiers never die, they just fade away." Private First Class M.R. Khukrit Pramot, an Indochina war veteran, recently complained loudly about a new era soldier, General Chawalit Yongchaiyut. Khukrit said that Chawalit delayed drastic action against the Lao forces that crossed the Thai-Lao border at Ban Romklao in Chat Trakan District of Phitsanulok Province. Furthermore, Thai people in several provinces have demonstrated against the Lao intrusion.

Khukrit's remarks and the demonstrations could have been a factors inducing Gen Chawalit to declare that "eye-for-an-eye" operations will be enacted to expell the intruders. [passage omitted]

During the colonial era, the French pressured Thailand, stole its territory, and produced a map showing the new, enlarged Lao territory. As evidence of ownership, the present Lao Administration has adopted this map, which was produced by its former French master. The current master of Laos, the Soviet Union, has also produced a map of Lao territory, but this map clearly shows that Ban Romklao is in Thai territory. By what right does the United States produce still another map, which Laos is using to claim Ban Romklao?

We appeal to the United States to disclaim to the world the accuracy of its lousy map. This would be good for U.S.-Thai relations.

Regardless of what anyone might say, the Thai people will not take another step backward.

If anyone is seeking death, he can try intruding into Thai territory. If Thai soldiers die on the battlefield, their families will receive help from Thai people throughout the country. Lao soldiers, however, will die in vain; their families will receive help from neither the Vietnamese nor the Russians because they do not belong to the same race.

Foreign Permanent Secretary on Lao Border
BK121015 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai
12 Feb 88 p 7

[Text] Permanent Secretary of the Foreign Ministry M.R. Kasemsamoson Kasemsi told newsmen yesterday that the Foreign Ministry is still pursuing diplomatic steps in efforts to settle the current Thai-Lao conflict. He spoke in an interview at the Central Plaza Hotel. He said the ministry does not publicize all the steps taken. He also said Thailand wants to hold talks with Laos to reduce the tension, and has no preconditions set for the talks. The permanent secretary noted that although the Thai people feel strongly about Laos' violation of Thai territory at Ban Romklao, the government still wants to settle the issue through talks.

Asked about Laos' charge that Thailand has set conditions for the talks, the permanent secretary said Laos was referring to old issues prior to the Ban Romklao incident. Laos keeps saying it does not want to see a resurgence of such incidents.

The permanent secretary was asked about a report that the French Government had provided Laos with a map and a Thai-Lao border demarcation treaty and told Laos of French readiness to back Laos in the matter. He replied to reporters that French Ambassador to Thailand Yvon Bastouille has denied that report. The permanent secretary said he believed France does not want to create

more problems, but wants Laos and Thailand to be good friends. Thailand has talked with other countries, all of which want the problem to be settled through talks.

M.R. Kasemsamson said that there had still been no response from Laos about talks. Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila instructed the ministry to send an urgent letter to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar calling for a settlement of the issue. The permanent secretary revealed that Thailand has also resorted to quiet diplomacy with Laos.

Armed Forces Committee Gives 'Total Support'
BK120317 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
12 Feb 88 p 3

[Text] The House Armed Forces Committee yesterday expressed its "total support" for the Army's campaign to dislodge Laotian troops by force from Ban Romklao in Phitsanulok province.

Deputy spokesman Pol [police] Lt Chaowarin Latthasak-siri said the committee took the stand at its meeting on Wednesday because it believes the expulsion should be carried out as quickly as possible so as to end the fighting.

He said Laos had demanded that Thailand withdraw its troops from the disputed area and recognise the Heng Samrin regime before negotiations could take place.

The demands are not logical, he said, since Thai troops have the right to be on Thai soil and the Heng Samrin issue had nothing to do with the present dispute.

Meanwhile, Democrat MP for Chiang Mai Kraison Tantiphong has written to the Parliament secretary-general asking that 1,000 baht be deducted from his salary each month and donated to soldiers at the front until the fighting stops.

Mr Kraison said the gesture was his way of showing goodwill to the soldiers.

He said the Government and military should invite all political party leaders for a briefing on the situation so they in turn can brief MPs. He objected to the Opposition's idea of opening an extraordinary session of Parliament to debate the matter.

He also suggested that politicians who may have close ties with Laos, such as Gen Kriangsak Chamanan, Phichai Rattakun or Wong Phonninon, be sent to Vientiane to try to improve the situation.

The Education Ministry and the University Affairs Bureau should explain Thailand's stand to students, who can then pass the information on to their parents, Mr Kraison said.

U.S. Criticized on Vietnamese Refugee Issue
BK111230 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai
11 Feb 88 p 8

["Half-Serious" column by "Thahan Kao"]

[Text] First, let me say that the U.S. Government deserves the straightforward remarks made by the Thai interior minister, whose speaking manner certainly fits his position.

I am referring to the U.S. Government note to the Thai Government stating that the Thai Government should resume accepting refugees. The note, intended for the Interior Ministry, was delivered through the Foreign Ministry.

This probably means that the Thai Government is being asked to welcome foreign refugees, particularly those from Vietnam. The note even lectured the Thai government about applying humanitarian principles to refugees.

I loathe writing about the recent arrival of Indochinese refugees in Thailand. However, because the U.S. Government has made suggestions to the Thai Government in a way that the Thai people consider nosy—in official language it would be called interference—on an issue on which the Thai Government never sought advice, we, too, can say that it is nosy.

I do not know why the U.S. Government stuck its nose into the refugee issue, as refugees from Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos—which is engaged in a dispute with Thailand—have already arrived in Thailand by the millions. And Thailand—the Government and the people—has received the refugees well by allowing them shelter. The Thai Government provided them comfortable shelter, as well as food and medical service when they became ill.

Thailand has done all this for refugees for years, to the extent that the refugee population is nearly as large as the Thai population itself! Nevertheless, the U.S. Government remains critical, asking Thailand to review its humane acceptance of refugees.

Upon being informed of this issue, some people may continue to be tolerant, but I cannot accept it. Fortunately, Interior Minister General Prachuap Suntharangkun could not tolerate it either. Being directly in charge of the refugee issue, his rebuttal of the U.S. Government's intrusiveness is appropriate and deserved.

Allow me to repeat the Interior Minister's rebuttal, which was made during an interview with reporters. He said:

"I assure you that the Interior Ministry and the Thai Government have maintained a humane policy and have neither brought harm nor done anything to cause refugees to suffer hardship or to die. [quotation marks as received]

Gen Prachuap reiterated that the Interior Ministry's duty is to prevent entry by illegal immigrants of all nationalities, not just Vietnamese. He went on to say the policy of preventing entry by illegal immigrants is Thailand's policy and no other country should intervene. He also said the United States should be well aware of such a policy because it also has one. He added that Thai measures are similar to those used by the United States along its border with Mexico.

He said Thailand continues to respect humanitarian principles and if the international community wants Thailand to adhere to humanitarian principles, the community should cooperate with Thailand to eliminate the refugee problem; to date no third countries have come forward to resettle refugees. Asked if the policy will hurt Thailand, Gen Prachuap said there is no problem because it has been shown that Thailand has no problem with refugees. Illegal immigrants, however, are the problem. He then pointed out that the exodus of refugee seekers has continued even though the war ended long ago. He added that he wonders why this is so.

Gen Prachuap concluded that the issue needs to be clarified, because there are various forms of the refugee problem, which involves such illegal immigrants as Pakistanis, Indians, and Bangladeshis as well. He said he must get tough with the Immigration Department. Thailand has abundant resources and illegal immigrants have never starved to death, but have become happy. So we must be stringent.

The Interior Minister used polite language to rebutt the U.S. Government, but the same cannot be said of the U.S. Government, which loves to boast and wield power in a typically American manner.

It is a fact that foreigners seeking refuge in Thailand, particularly those from neighboring countries, have continued to come to Thailand, more so than during the war that ended long ago. Therefore, the motive for their coming is not flight from the dangers of war but something else.

Still, the Thai Government and people have remained humane and receive refugees because, as Buddhists, the Thai people are taught to have compassion for their fellow human beings.

The U.S. Government need not review humanitarianism with Thailand, and should scrutinize itself before presenting humanitarianism. Within the United States the government has played an inhumane and cruel role

against refugees there. Audiences who have seen films produced by Americans themselves know how cruel the U.S. Government is toward refugees.

The current exodus of people from neighboring countries into Thailand is not to flee danger in their countries or in any country. More than anything else, it is an exodus to create danger for Thailand.

The refugees clearly intend to break Thai law by sneaking into the country. Regardless of motive or intention, the Thai Government must rectify the matter by applying the law, because the refugees are breaking the law.

As a third country resettling refugees from Thailand, the United States has displayed humanitarianism, but this humanitarianism is conditional. The U.S. Government accepts only wealthy, educated, and skilled refugees after a tedious selection process. Only a few refugees with education, wealth, or assets are accepted. Ragged refugees are left for the Thai Government to care for and I do not know how many of these the Thai Government has fed and sheltered until they died here. Do you think Thailand is humanitarian by doing this?

Who caused the past and present exodus of Vietnamese, Cambodian, and Lao refugees into Thailand?

Here I want to blame the U.S. Government for causing the exodus. The United States crossed the Pacific to wage a war in the territory of other countries—Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. The war waged by the United States in those countries was cruel and inhumane because the people there were regarded as victims of war and because they were not Americans. The United States eventually withdrew from the war as the loser, because the American people themselves and the people of the world disagreed with the war and became disenchanted with it. The United States waged the war for several years without winning and finally lost by having to withdraw its soldiers. It left the negative consequences of the war for those countries to inherit, turning them into countries with neither independence nor previous identities. And large numbers of people from these countries that the United States left without independence and sovereignty have fled their countries to seek refuge in Thailand.

Yes, the U.S. conduct of the war caused people in those countries to become refugees. It can be said that, without admitting it, the United States left behind an inheritance—the refugee problem—and Thailand must inherit the burden created by the U.S. war without having done anything to deserve it.

And now the U.S. Government is acting big, issuing orders, and telling the Thai people to continue accepting refugees who have broken Thai law. I think this is a bit too much.

I am writing this column to give everyone the facts. Moreover, I am happy with the way the Interior Minister rebutted the U.S. Government on this issue, and I want to take this opportunity to say that the U.S. Government asked for it.

Border 'Sweeps' With Malaysia To Increase
BK120315 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
12 Feb 88 p 3

[Text] Combined military sweeps along the border with Malaysia will be intensified to wipe out the Communist Party of Malaya [CPM].

The announcement came yesterday at the end of a one-day meeting of the Thai-Malaysian General Border Committee, co-chaired by the defence ministers of the two countries.

Malaysian Defence Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen praised Thailand for persuading 664 CPM members to accept amnesty and leave the jungle.

"Malaysia appreciates this effort by Thailand and it is hoped that the other CPM factions along the border region will also follow suit."

According to a statement, delegates, including Defence Minister ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Phaniang Kantarat, expressed satisfaction with coordinated naval patrols in adjoining territorial waters which have deterred arms smuggling.

A combined naval exercise was carried out in the Narathiwat and Kelantan joint patrol zone.

The committee also expressed satisfaction with the joint air exercise, "Thamal IV", in March 1987, saying cooperation had further enhanced the ability of the two countries to work together.

It also praised the joint Thailand-Malaysia Border Socio-Economic Development Committee in having helped uplift the living conditions of villagers along the border.

Mr Rithauddeen yesterday met Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon to reaffirm Malaysia's determination to promote better relations.

The Prime Minister briefed the Malaysian Defence Minister on the Thai-Lao border situation, government spokesman Michai Wirawathaya said.

Gen Prem told the Malaysian minister Thailand does not want to fight with neighbours, countries, including Laos, because Thailand has always considered Laos as a brother.

The Prime Minister told the minister that Thailand has repeatedly asked Laos to leave Ban Rom Klao, where Pathet Lao troops have occupied strategic hills.

"We also ask Laos for talks to settle the dispute, but Laos makes no response," Gen Prem was quoted as saying.

Mr Michai said the Premier emphasised that Thailand has to protect its sovereignty and, if necessary, will force foreign troops from its territory.

"Thailand will try to do everything with gentleness and will not create incidents at other spots if the situation does not escalate," Gen Prem was quoted as saying.

Khukrit Criticizes Proposed Lintel Exchange
BK120905 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai
12 Feb 88 p 9

[M.R. Khukrit Pramot's "Soi Suanphlu" Column]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The art treasures of Khao Phanomrung Temple in Buriram Province include a carved sandstone lintel with the image of a man lying on his side with a lotus flower. The lintel and the temple was built during the same period and the lintel was part of the temple, which is several centuries old.

During 1960-1974, many U.S. soldiers were based in the Northeast—in Ubon Ratchathani, Udon Thani, Khon Kaen Provinces—turning the region into something of a U.S. territory. The U.S. military forces there were highly efficient and had abundant weapons, soldiers, and modern equipment for lifting heavy loads. They had everything in their bases.

The sandstone lintel at Khao Phanomrung Temple disappeared during the 1960-1974 period [as published], and whoever took it must have had at their disposal equipment for lifting heavy loads. Thailand had no way of knowing where the lintel was taken. Thailand was probably at wit's end or did not have the heart to find it.

However, about 2 years ago [as published] some Thais discovered that the lintel was on display at a museum in Chicago, a city where selling stolen goods is an occupation that makes millionaires out of many of those involved.

The Fine Arts Department then wrote to the U.S. Government asking for a return of the lintel, and, I think, the U.S. Government refused. As the issue became more known, a house commission was even brought into the picture and efforts for the lintel's return continued.

Yesterday there was a report that the United States said it will return the lintel, providing Thailand exchange an art treasure of equal value for the lintel.

We might as well just give the United States the entire Khao Phanomrung Temple.

I feel that the latest demand or bargaining proposal is extremely crazy and shows the nature of the one making the demand. This demand is totally alien to the Thai people.

A man had his property stolen and now receives a demand to exchange the stolen property for another item of equal value. Is this humane? What happens to human rights?

I praise Education Minister Marut Bunnak for saying the lintel should not have to be bought back or exchanged for another object.

However, the Fine Arts Department, which is an Education Ministry agency, said it is ready to give away an object in exchange.

Such is the difference in tones between master and subject.

Marut is an elected MP as well as a minister. Being an elected official, his views are closer to those of the people than those of permanent civil servants.

I am on Marut's side.

Do not ask Khun Prem for a decision on the lintel issue unless you want to be disappointed, because Khun Prem is a permanent civil servant.

Ministry, Officials Object

BK120301 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
12 Feb 88 pp 1, 3

[Text] The Education Ministry and the House Culture and Tourism Committee yesterday raised objections to any attempt to swap another work of art for the Thaplang Narai Bantomsin, saying the historic art treasure now in the US rightfully belongs to Thailand.

Committee secretary Phonthep Techaphaibun said the objections followed discussion of a proposal by the Art Institute of Chicago to return the sandstone artifact if Thailand provided another work of art from the same period in exchange.

"We feel that this is a matter of correctness. There should be no exchange. The United States itself has always been calling for what is right," Mr Phonthep said.

Education Minister Marut Bunnak said: "This is something that simply cannot be exchanged."

The minister said Thailand has in the past given Thai artifacts to foundations for cultural and academic purposes, but the issue of the lintel is a different matter.

The officials' remarks come several days after two senior Fine Arts Department officials welcomed the proposal by the Art Institute to arrange a swap for the lintel.

They suggested that Thailand send some Ban Chiang artifacts as replacements for the lintel.

MP Phonthep said the director of the Art Institute, James Wood, had phoned him from the United States to personally reiterate the trade proposal.

Mr Phonthep said he asked Mr Wood what criteria should be used to determine the importance and value of the item to be swapped for the Thaplang, but was told that this would be up to Thailand.

He later informed the committee of his conversation with Mr Wood. Following a lengthy debate, the committee decided the proposal was "incorrect and inappropriate since the lintel already belongs to Thailand". Nothing should have to be swapped for it, the committee ruled.

When asked about the opinion of members of the Fine Arts Department on the proposal, Mr Phonthep said, "Some of them accept the swap, some object to it. But whatever, rightfully the lintel belongs to us. We also have laws against trading in stolen goods."

Education Minister Marut said he would be sending a letter to Mr Wood asking that the institute return the lintel. Although the suggestion has been made that a similar letter be sent to James Alsdorf, president of the Alsdorf Foundation, which donated the Thaplang to the museum, Mr Marut said he did not think this would be necessary.

Nevertheless, Fine Art Deputy director general Khunying Kulasap Ketmaenkit said letters to both men have already been drafted and would be sent to Mr Marut for signing.

The Thaplang Narai Bantomsin (Vishnu Sleeping on Water) is a horizontal crosspiece that was once above the gate of the Hindu Khao Phanom Rung Temple in Buriram province.

The carved sandstone sculpture dates back to between the 10th and 13th centuries when the temple was built under the Khmer empire.

It disappeared between 1960 and 1961. A representative of the House committee who visited the Art Institute recently said the back of the lintel showed evidence having been blown off the temple.

A group calling itself "The People of Thailand" has charged that the stone was smuggled abroad with official US complicity. Washington has denied any involvement in the matter.

The lintel has been on display in Chicago since 1967. In 1983 the Alsdorf Foundation donated it to the museum, which now legally owns it. Mr Alsdorf was made a lifetime member of the Art Institute.

Mr Phonthep said the education minister is prepared to ask that Mr Alsdorf and Mr Wood be invited to the opening of the renovated Khao Phanom Rung Temple in April.

He will also ask that both men be granted an audience with Her royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirinthon, who will officially rededicate the temple.

Mr Phonthep said the committee will continue gathering information on the lintel and "inform the Thai people and the people of the world".

He said there has been movement on the issue thanks in part to media coverage in both Thailand and the US. Depending on developments, he said he may leave for the US soon to hold talks with Mr Wood.

"I think that the approach to this problem should be a civil and polite one. But we should not have to exchange anything to have the lintel returned to us," Mr Phonthep said.

He said that the issue is a sensitive one for both the Art Institute and Mr Alsdorf. One possible way out would be for Thailand to allow a replica of the lintel to be made by the museum.

"They could then put that on display with a card saying the real one has been donated back to Thailand. We could also place a card near the lintel when it's returned to the temple saying it was donated back by the museum. This would be good for their reputation," Mr Phonthep said.

Asked if he knew why Thai officials did not provide proof of ownership to the museum after first contacting it in 1976, Mr Phonthep said this might have been due to the US position that it could not return the sculpture because Thailand was not a member of the 1970 UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of cultural Property.

"If Thailand was a member then we could have asked the US Government to return it, but then we would have to buy it back from its legal owner in the States. Where would we find the money if they price it at 50 million baht?" Mr Phonthep said.

Possible Protest Planned

BK120129 Bangkok *THE NATION* in English
12 Feb 88 p 3

[By Somphong Tang]

[Text] Thailand may complain to the world community if an American art museum possessing a stolen Thai antique doesn't return it, an MP said yesterday.

Phonthep Techaphaibun, spokesman for the House Culture and Tourism Committee, said such a protest was unavoidable if the Art Institute of Chicago rejected letters from the committee and the Fine Arts Department asking that the disputed treasure be returned to Thailand.

The institute, which has displayed the "Sleeping Vishnu" sandstone beam for 21 years, yesterday reiterated its demand that the priceless item be exchanged for another Thai artifact "of the same value", he said.

Thawisak Senanarong, the director general of the Fine Arts Department, said it's difficult to accept the institute's demand because "what can be used to evaluate an antique?"

A source said US cultural attache Virginia Loo Sarris informed Thailand in 1986 that it was difficult for the United States to return the object to Thailand, which is not a signatory of a 1970 convention of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

The convention prohibits illicit import and export of cultural treasure.

Phonthep talked to the institute's president, James N. Wood, on the telephone yesterday, during which the Buriram MP was told the institute is "ready" to exchange the treasure. Phonthep heads a newly-formed task force assigned to secure the lintel, stolen from Khao Phanomrung Temple in Buriram in the 1960s.

Thailand proposes that Wood and probably collector James Alsdorf, who owned the stone, give it to HRM Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, who will preside over a ceremony at the restored Khao Phanomrung Temple on April 2.

To return the sculpture through the princess to mark the restoration of the temple will earn the Americans great honour, he said.

"The United States has had the lintel for so long. It should return the item to its real owner without any condition," Ponthep said.

"If our offer is rejected, we may have to complain with the world community," he said.

He quoted Wood as saying that the American press, especially in Chicago, is following the issue closely.

Thaweesak said he has drafted a letter to be sent to the institute. The letter, to be signed by Education Minister Marut Bunnak, asks the Americans "politely" to send the artifact back to Thailand, he added.

If the institute returned the item, Thailand can probably give it some of the abundant, pre-historic Ban Chiang antiques as a gesture of thanks, he said.

But the Americans "should not set any condition," he said.

The Khao Phanomrung Temple is among several built between the 10th and 13th centuries by Kampuchea's powerful Khmer dynasty, which extended into what is now Thailand.

Thailand has restored the temple, prompting the demand for the lost antique.

Vietnam

VNA Reports Closure of Reeducation Camp
BK111606 Hanoi VNA in English 1506 GMT
11 Feb 88

["The Closing of a Chapter"—VNA heading]

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb 11—"In a sense, this is the closing of a chapter," said Colonel Luu Van Han, director of the Nam Ha reeducation camp, in a briefing to a group of journalists before the release from the camp of more than 160 among the 1,014 former officers and officials of the Saigon regime to be set free from various camps across the country.

The release is timed to coincide with the Tet, traditional festival of the Vietnamese, so that the released may rejoin their families on this auspicious occasion. Among the beneficiaries are many generals and colonels of the former Saigon army and high ranking public servants of the Ngo Dinh Diem, Nguyen Van Thieu and other puppet administrations.

The Nam Ha reeducation camp lies about 90 kilometers southwest of Hanoi in Phu Ly District, Ha Nam Ninh Province. From the distance it looks more like a hospital compound than a concentration camp with white washed low tile-roofed buildings squatting on the slope of a verdant mountain. The multitude of lime mountains interspaced with rice paddies gives the place the vague resemblance to a dried-up bay of Ha Long in the northeast of Vietnam.

Originally a prisoners' camp, it was converted into a camp for captured American pilots in 1970. After the Paris Agreement in 1973 and the release of the American POWs, the camp became a place to reeducate former Saigon personnel.

"How did you feel when first entering the camp?" I asked Pham Kim Quy, colonel of the Saigon police, assistant to the Command of the National Police of the Thieu regime. "You know, we were not accustomed to hold a hoe or an ax, so the first months were a very trying time for us." "Were you worked up beyond your endurance?" "Oh no, I personally don't think so. Even though we are under the camp regulation to work eight hours a day, everyone could take a rest when he felt tired. Moreover, our main jobs are to grow rice and plant fruit trees to supplement the food rations supplied by the government. It is not too demanding, you see."

Pham Kim Tan, a brother to Pham Kim Qui, a lieutenant-colonel in the Thieu police force who was at his side as we made the interview and who is also set free this time, shared his brother's view. He added: "We have learnt the way to keep ourselves fit, making it a rigorous rule never to miss a morning exercise. That's important, you know."

Said Luu Van Han, the director of the camp:

"The government gives them twelve kilos of rice and other food grain per month. We expect them to produce the two or three remaining kilos of the common ration for everyone here, including myself. The inmates also grow vegetable for their own needs. In addition to the common gardens they are allowed to keep small plots around their dwellings. As for meat, there is not much from the camp but the ration is not too bad by the common standard of the people thanks to the supply from the pig sties kept by each section in the camp."

Luu Van Han said that except for the first few years, there has been a regular sending of mail and supplies in food and other necessities from the inmates' families which are delivered one every two months, sometimes once a month. We were lucky enough to have a look at the contents of several packages of gifts sent from Ho Chi Minh City. There are sausages, vermicelli, sugar, soap, cigarettes, coffee, and also some garments and pairs of shoes. This has become an increasing important resource of the inmates, the camp director said.

Asked if their families were allowed to see them, he said: "We have built a guesthouse for such family visits. It has two private rooms for couples. The families can spend up to two days and nights at the camp."

Luu Van Han took us to the "translation section" of the camp. It was a group of a dozen or so camp inmates headed by Tran Duc Minh, a former colonel, director of the Saigon army's Infantry Officers School at Thu Duc. The group has been translating defence materials of the West from English and French for the Ministry of Defence. Tran Duc Minh boasted that in the years in the camp he has learned a lot of Russian and Spanish, too. They have translated fifty books or treatises in addition to hundreds of newspaper articles on defence matters.

There are also a carpentry workshop and a clothes-making workshop where many have spent an useful time in the camp and back in their families. [sentence as received] The director said he had received many letters from former inmates who said they had opened their own tailoring or carpentry shops in Ho Chi Minh City and were doing quite a brisk business.

The small reading room gave us quite a pleasant surprise when we came across many interesting titles about a wide range of knowledge such as economics, chemistry and physics, and naturally, a lot of novels from both the East and the West. The camp clinic is staffed by two doctors, one male and one female. There were only two patients when we arrived, one long-time asthmatic and the other suffering from an ailment yet to be auscultated. One thing which tells much of the inmates' confidence in their release is the way they decorated their dwellings, adorning all of them with flower beds and even rockworks.

"Do you resent what you have been made to do at the camp?" I asked the same ex-colonel Pham Dinh Quy. "Frankly, not. Because I know I deserve it. But I am happy it has come to an end. I'll take along some utensils I have made here as souvenir."

As we bade farewell to [words indistinct] the main building of the camp I asked camp director Luu Van Han: "How many do you still keep after this release?"

"Oh, an insignificant number and they will also be released soon if they don't create obstacle to themselves. Then we shall reconvert this camp to an ordinary detention camp for common prisoners."

"And close a chapter as you said the other moment?"

"Exactly so," he answered with a broad smile.

Nguyen Co Thach Receives Guinean Adviser
BK120258 Hanoi VNA in English 1556 GMT
11 Feb 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 11—El Hadj Ibrahim Souman, adviser of President Lansana Conte of Guinea, visited Vietnam from Feb. 5-10.

While here, Mr. Souman paid tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum and visited his home and office. The Guinean guest was received by Nguyen Co Thach, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister, and met with representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade and some other offices concerned. The two sides discussed concrete measures to expand their bilateral economic, scientific and technological cooperation in the years ahead.

Fisheries Increase Foreign Cooperation
BK120226 Hanoi VNA in English 1454 GMT
11 Feb 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 11—Fisheries are making brisk headway in Vietnam thanks to the application of new techniques in fishing and aquaculture and the import of more and more modern equipment.

Among the biggest seafoods producers in Vietnam are the provinces of Hau Giang, Tien Giang, Cuu Long in the south, Binh Tri Thien, Phu Khanh and Thuan Hai in central Vietnam, and Ha Nam Ninh seafoods production in the whole country. Thuan Hai also takes the lead in shrimp output per unit of area, one ton per hectare and 1.5 tons for breed prawns.

The acreage devoted to raising shrimps for export now covers 120,000 hectares with an output more than double that at the time of the liberation of South Vietnam in 1975.

All the seafoods processing factories built before 1978 have been restored, enlarged and re-equipped. Forty new factories with modern equipment have been set up. The storage capacity of the refrigerating facilities has increased by four times compared with seven years ago, helping to improve the quality of export. The Vietnam National Sea Products Export Import Corporation (Seaprodex) under the Ministry of Aquatic Products now has trade relations with 18 countries and many international organizations. It is seeking broader cooperation with foreign countries in fishing and marketing including offshore trading.

French Group Aids District
BK120741 Hanoi VNA in English 0718 GMT
12 Feb 88

[Text]—Hanoi VNA February 12—Duyen hai, a suburban district of Ho Chi Minh City, recently received from the French Humanitarian Organization (C.I.D.S.E) [Co-operation Internationale pour le Developpment Socio-Economique—[International Cooperation for Socio-Economic Development] more than 130,000 U.S. dollars as aid to develop fishery.

With this sum of money the district will import motor engines and fishing nets, and build ships to supply to fishing teams in a coastal village.

VFF Central Committee Commemorates Tet
BK111325 Hanoi International Service in English
1000 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] A get-together was held in Hanoi on Wednesday by the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front on the occasion of the coming Tet, the Lunar New Year festival.

Present at the get-together were Hoang Quoc Viet, honorable president of the front; Le Quang Dao, chairman of the National Assembly; and many intellectuals and personalities. Representatives of overseas Vietnamese who returned to the homeland for Tet also attended the get-together.

Australia

Fiji President Arrives for 'Medical Treatment' *BK110930 Melbourne Overseas Service in English* 0800 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Fiji's president, Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, has arrived in Sydney for medical treatment on his first visit to Australia since taking up the post after Fiji was declared a republic last year.

Radio Australia's Pacific affairs correspondent, Tony Melville, says the 69-year-old president is believed to have been suffering from a virus for the past few weeks. The virus has forced him to conduct official business from his bedside.

He and Lady Ganilau were met in Sydney by officials from the Fiji Consulate. They would not speak with the waiting media.

The Fijian president is expected to stay in Sydney for about a week.

Technical Mission on Aid To Visit Fiji *BK120739 Melbourne Overseas Service in English* 0500 GMT 12 Dec 88

[Text] An Australian technical mission is to go to Fiji next week to work out details of Australia's new \$7 million aid program. The mission follows the formal announcement on Tuesday that Australia and Fiji had agreed on a resumed aid program.

The first round of talks on restarting the frozen aid program took place in Suva last week. Radio Australia's Canberra office says the technical aid team is also expected to open the way for resumption of Australia's annual aid talks with Fiji. The previous talks took place in Suva last May—2 weeks before the first coup.

Fiji

PRC Offers To Set Up Two TV Stations *BK120620 Hong Kong AFP in English 0539* GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Suva, Feb 12 (AFP)—China has offered to set up two television stations in Fiji following the failure of an Australian company to put programmes on air here, a Chinese official said Friday.

Zhao Wenyin, vice general manager of the China Zhejiang Corp. for International Economic and Technical Cooperation, said a 100,000 U.S.-dollar proposal had been put to the Fiji Government.

Fijian Government officials were understood to have expressed some initial interest, although observers here were surprised by its low cost.

In August 1986 the Australian company Publishing and Broadcasting PTY Ltd. entered a 12-year agreement with the Fijian Government to bring broadcast television to the country.

Fiji Television, which was part of Australian businessman Kerry Packer's electronic media interests until it was purchased by Bond Corp., was to have launched television broadcasts here in September.

But the launch date was put back a month after Fiji's second military coup, and then in November before a programme had been put on air all 23 staff here were laid off and Fiji's Television premises were closed down.

The Chinese propose to build one station in Suva and another at Monasavu, which is in the interior of Fiji's largest island Viti Levu.

Mr. Zhao said his organisation, which controls all aid programs from China to other countries, would take six months to complete the project.

He said the Suva station would be able to beam signals within the greater Suva area and the Monasavu station would beam signals to the country's 300-plus islands via an American satellite.

He also mentioned the possibility of using U.S. programmes for the service.

Friday saw the start of a four million U.S.-dollar rural electrification project in central Viti Levu funded by the Chinese Government.

The four-year project includes two hydro stations to be built in the town of Ba on Viti Levu and Wainikeli on Fiji's second largest island, Vanua Levu.

Forty six consultants and technicians from China will be engaged in the project and more than 76 villages will benefit from it.

It was initiated in May 1985 when Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara visited China.

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